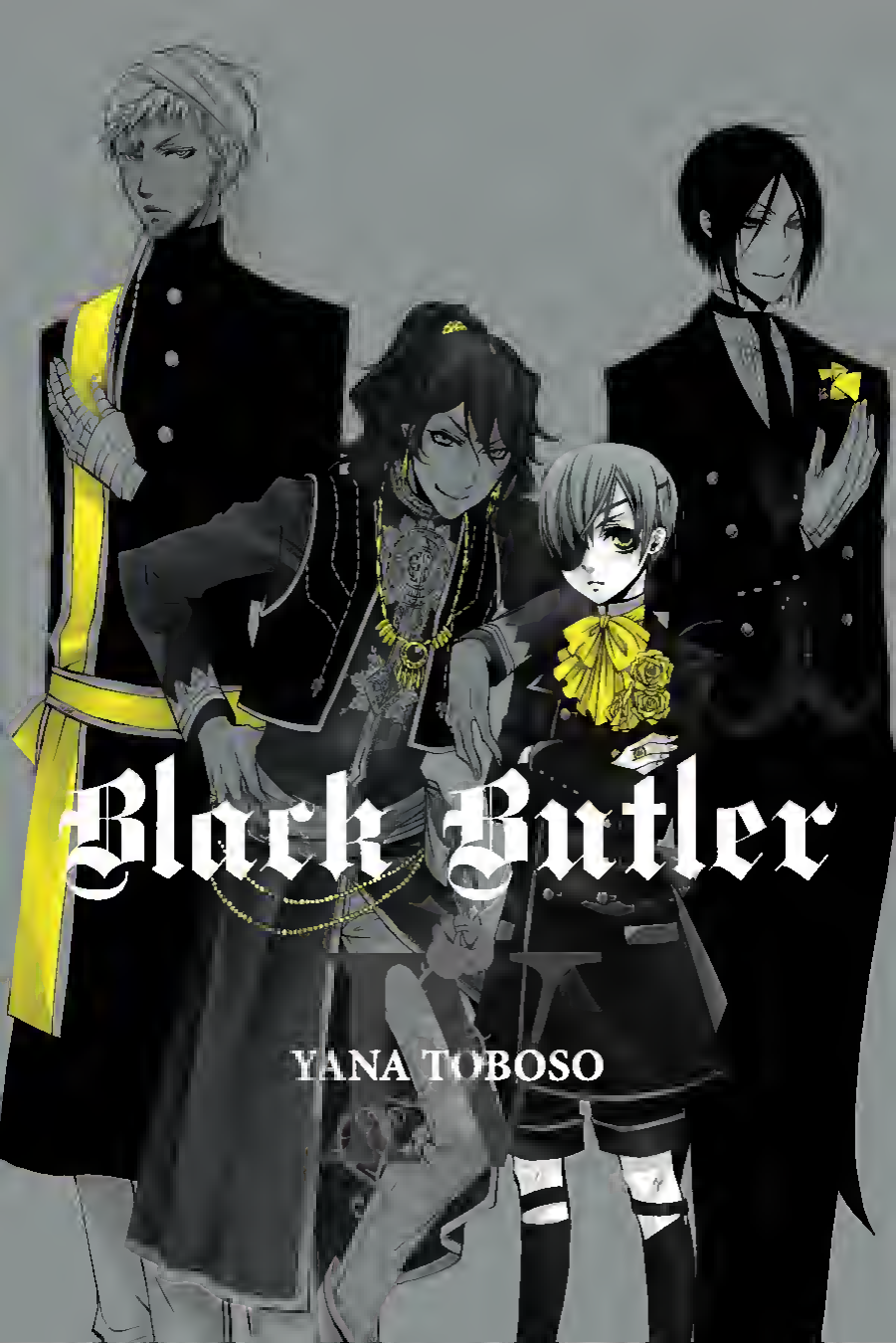
Black Butler
YANA TOBOSO
IV


Black Butler
YANA TOBOSO

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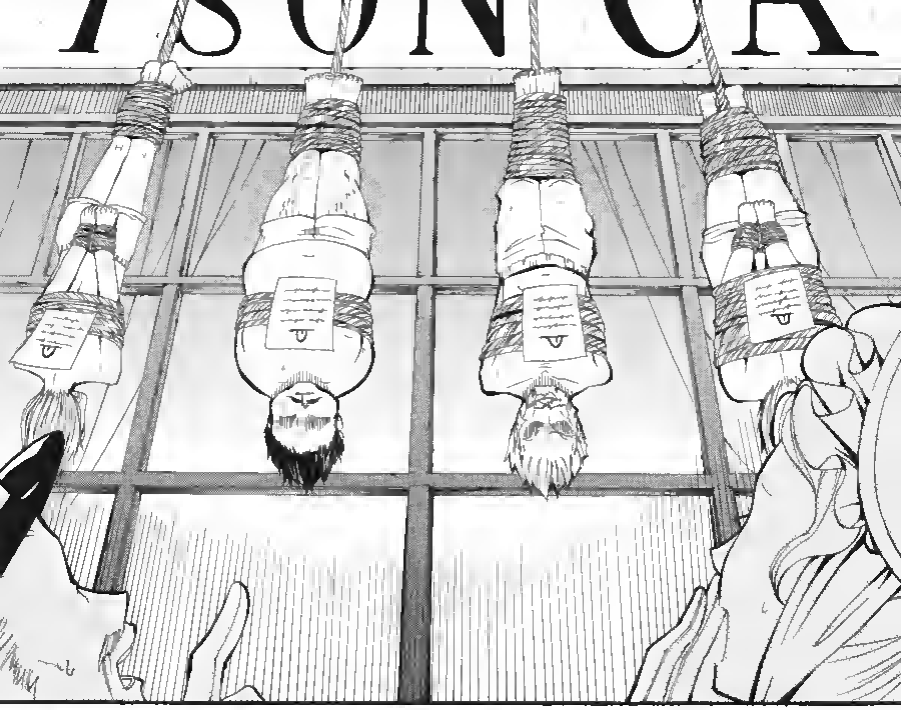
Chapter 15

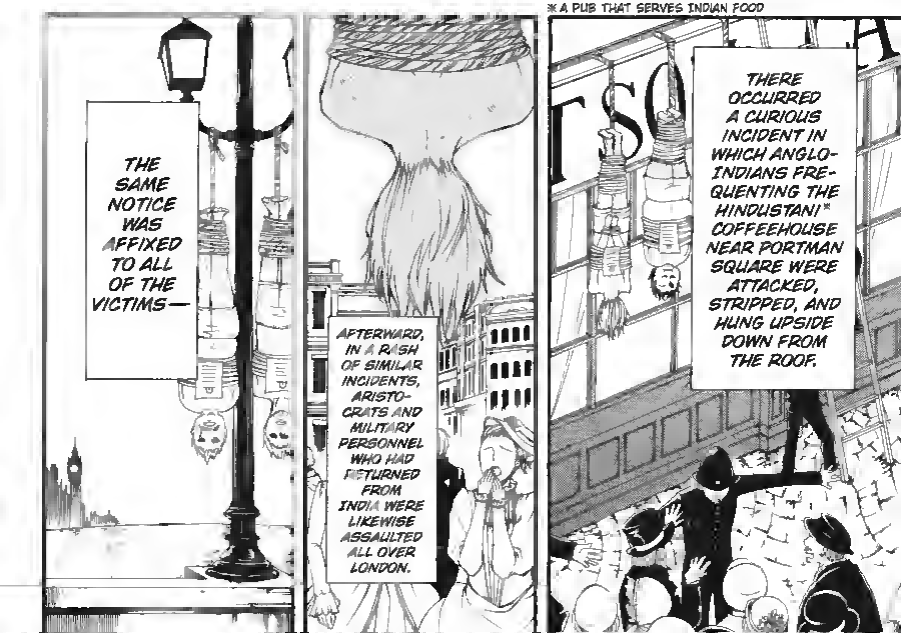
In the morning : The Butler, Freeloading

YAAAY, SNOOOW!
ADDING STONES'LL MAKE 'EM JUST THAT MUCH DEADLIER!
MADE IT TOO BIG, I DID!

ZAWA (BUZZ)
THAT PEACE, HOWEVER, PROVED BUT A BRIEF RES-PITE—
ZAWA

WINTER— IN GREAT BRITAIN, IT IS AN ASHEN SEASON COVERED BY THICK, HEAVY CLOUDS.
WITH THE JACK THE RIPPER CASE RESOLVED, THE HUM OF DAILY LIFE RETURNED TO LONDON.

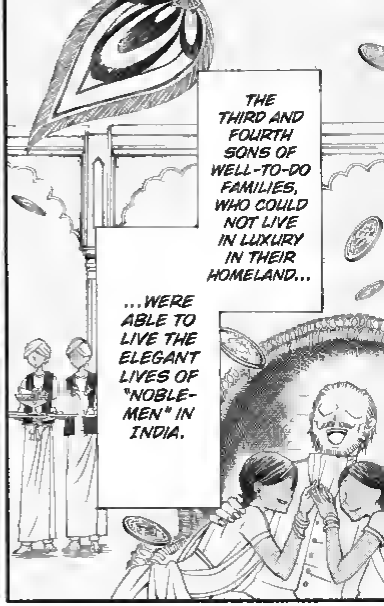


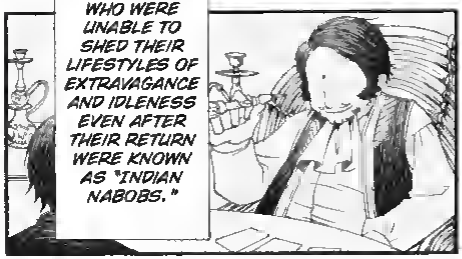

THE SAME NOTICE WAS AFFIXED TO ALL OF THE VICTIMS—
AFTERWARD, IN A RASH OF SIMILAR INCIDENTS, ARISTOCRATS AND MILITARY PERSONNEL WHO HAD RETURNED FROM INDIA WERE LIKEWISE ASSAULTED ALL OVER LONDON.
※A PUB THAT SERVES INDIAN FOOD
THERE OCCURRED A CURIOUS INCIDENT IN WHICH ANGLO-INDIANS FREQUENTING THE HINDUSTANI※ COFFEEHOUSE NEAR PORTMAN SQUARE WERE ATTACKED, STRIPPED, AND HUNG UPSIDE DOWN FROM THE ROOF.

WATCH THIS WILD, PATHETIC CHILD OF SLOTH AND DEPRAVITY.
Watch this wild, pathetic
"TO ALL THE IDIOTS OF THE BITCH-RULED LAND, YOU ARE THE ONES WHO DESERVE THE VENGEANCE OF HEAVEN!"
sloth and depravity
is the motherland of the
ENGLAND IS THE MOTHERLAND OF THE DEVIL, WHO ROBS OFF EVERYTHING AND FORCES ITS WORTHLESS, ROTTEN, AND IGNORANT CULTURE ON YOU INSTEAD!
culture on you instead
To all the idiots of the
Lord, you are the ones
vengeance of Heaven!
Now, the Day has come!
SO IT SAID.
(GLICK) (CLENCH)
HAVEN'T YOU BEEN ABLE TO ARREST THE PERPETRATORS YET, ABBERLINE!!?
SORRY, SIR!!
BISH! (WHIP)
CHIEF INSPECTOR, SCOTLAND YARD
Fred Abberline
GUSHA (CRUMPLE)
ANOTHER INCIDENT! THIS IS THE TWENTIETH ONE!!
COMMISSIONER, SCOTLAND YARD
Lord Randall
OHH, DO FORGIVE ME FOR BEING A BRAT.
WE LET JACK THE RIPPER SLIP THROUGH OUR FINGERS, AND THAT BLOODY BRAT SNATCHED AWAY OUR GLORY...

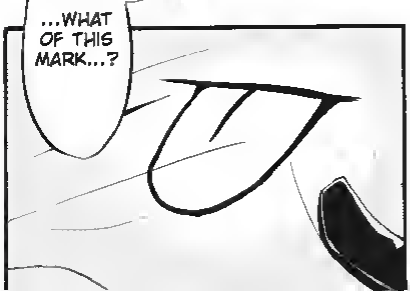
YOU, BOY! HOW DID YOU GET IN HERE!?
EARL PHAN-TOMHIVE!
I'VE COME TO CLEAN UP AFTER THE BUMBLING HOUNDS.
HA!
I SHOULD THINK THAT WOULD BE OBVIOUS
?
... WHY ARE YOU HERE!?
EARL PHAN-TOM-HIVE ...
WHO GAVE YOU THE RIGHT TO—
!
BA (SHOVE)
AND THERE DON'T APPEAR TO BE ANY CASUAL-TIES AS OF YET.
ONLY ANGLO-INDIANS HAVE BEEN TARGETED IN THIS CASE.
WHA—!
HYCH (SNATCH)
I SEE.

GU-GUH?
FE
HMPH!
...I CANNOT RIGHTLY SIT BY AS THE ROYAL FAMILY CONTINUES TO BE INSULTED.
I WOULD NOT BE HERE IF MERE BANDITS WERE TO BLAME, BUT...
THE BRITISH INDIAN EMPIRE.
Tibet
Nepal
Oudh
Bengal
Orissa
Madras
Mysore
Ceylon
AT THE TIME, MASSES OF ENGLISH MEN LIVED IN THE BRITISH COLONY OF INDIA.
I'D HAVE TO AGREE THAT THIS COUNTRY WOULD BE MARGINALLY BETTER OFF WITHOUT THE INDIAN NABOBS.
I SAY, "CHILD OF SLOTH AND DEPRAVITY" IS A WONDERFULLY ACCURATE EXPRESSION ON THE PART OF OUR CULPRIT.


THE THIRD AND FOURTH SONS OF WELL-TO-DO FAMILIES, WHO COULD NOT LIVE IN LUXURY IN THEIR HOMELAND...
...WERE ABLE TO LIVE THE ELEGANT LIVES OF "NOBLE-MEN" IN INDIA.


...THE MANY WHO WERE UNABLE TO SHED THEIR LIFESTYLES OF EXTRAVAGANCE AND IDLENESS EVEN AFTER THEIR RETURN WERE KNOWN AS "INDIAN NABOBS."

SFX: MOKU (SILENT) MOKU



EVEN IF THEY WALLOWED IN BASE AMUSE-MENTS WHILE IN INDIA AND ARE COWARDS WHO SINGLE-MINDEDLY SQUANDERED THEIR FORTUNES, MANY OF THEM ARE MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH GENTRY.
WE MUST PROTECT THEM!

THEY'RE MAKING A MOCKERY OF WE BRITISH AND HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN! HOW DARE THEY COCK ABOUT LIKE THIS...!!
GUSHA (CRUSH)
THE VICTIMS ARE ALL RETURNEES FROM INDIA. THAT MEANS THE PERPETRATOR MUST BE A VILE INDIAN.
THOSE BLOODY SAVAGES !!
OHHH?
SO THAT'S WHY I WAS SUMMONED HERE.
COMMISSIONER RANDALL, PLEASE CALM DOWN..
MOST OF THE INDIANS WHO'VE STOLEN THEIR WAY INTO GREAT BRITAIN ARE HOLED UP IN THE EAST END.
THE CITY POLICE SEEM TO HAVE TROUBLE DEALING WITH THE UNDERWORLD THERE.
SO LEARNING THE EXACT NUMBER OF STOWAWAYS OR BY WHAT ROUTES THEY MAKE IT HERE IS RATHER PROBLEMATIC, HM?
GU (GRIT)
WELL, IF YOU DON'T MIND, I'LL BE GOING ABOUT MY BUSINESS.
I'D LIKE TO RETURN TO THE MANOR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, YOU SEE.
SEBASTIAN, YOU'VE MEMORISED THE PAPERS ?
YES, SIR.
COME ALONG THEN, SEBASTIAN.
VERY GOOD, SIR.
THANK YOU.

COMMISSIONER RANDALL. WHO IN THE WORLD IS THAT KID...?
ccloko
カッ
カッ…
...IN THIS COUNTRY, THERE EXISTS A SECRET AGENCY UNDER DIRECT CONTROL OF THE QUEEN.
SINCE YOU'VE SEEN FOR YOURSELF, I SUPPOSE I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO FILL YOU IN...
ABBERLINE...
...AND THE EARLS THEMSELVES HAVE BEEN "WATCHDOGS OF THE QUEEN" OR THE "ARISTOCRATS OF EVIL."
Defentia Regere
THE PHANTOMHIVE EARLDOM HAS HEADED UP THIS AGENCY THROUGH THE GENERATIONS...
IT IS KNOWN AS "PHANTOMHIVE."

IN EVERY CIVILISATION, THERE IS BOTH A "POLITE SOCIETY" AND AN "UNDERWORLD."
AND GREAT BRITAIN IS NO EXCEPTION.
WHY "EVIL"? IF HE SERVES THE ROYAL FAMILY, ARE THEY NOT THE SAME AS U—
NO.
THAT IS NO SUCH SIMPLE THING.
THE UNDERBELLY OF THE EAST END.
THE CRIMINALS AND BLACKGUARDS OF OTHER NATIONS WHO CONGREGATE THEREIN.
SO THAT THESE UNDESIRABLES DO NOT SPILL OUT INTO POLITE SOCIETY, THEY EMPLOY THEIR MONSTROUS AUTHORITY TO RULE OVER AND POLICE EVERY INCH OF THIS COUNTRY'S UNDERWORLD...
THE ROGUE ORGANISATION KNOWN AS PHANTOMHIVE COVERS UP ANY NUMBER OF CRIMINAL ACTS CARRIED OUT BY THE ROYALS AND WILL STOP AT NOTHING TO ELIMINATE ANY AND ALL WHO MAY SEEK TO HARM THE ROYAL FAMILY.
BY ALL RIGHTS, THEY FUNCTION AS THE ROYAL "SHADOW"— A "PHANTOM," WHICH SHOULD NEVER HAVE COME INTO BEING.
THAT'S ...
...THE "PHANTOMHIVE EARLDOM" FOR YOU.

SO BASICALLY, THEY'RE THE OPPOSITE OF THE POLICE IN THAT...
...THEY USE THE POWERS OF "EVIL" TO CARRY OUT THE QUEEN'S ORDERS ...?
A SLIP OF A CHILD LIKE HIM?
THAT THERE IS NO CHILD.
THAT IS...
..THE DEVIL HIMSELF.
YOUNG MASTER.
WE HAVE ARRIVED.

DO WATCH YOUR STEP.
—YOU SURE THIS IS IT?
YES, SIR.
...SO YOU'VE FINALLY MANAGED TO FIND THIS PLACE...
...MY LORD.
むあっ
MUA (HAZE)
GACHA GACHAKO
!
KOFF!
WHAT AN AWFUL SMELL...
...ALWAYS BELIEVED THIS DAY WOULD COME.
BUT I'VE...
HOW STRANGE TO BE FACING YOU HERE LIKE THIS.

わら
WARA (CROWD)
I SAY!
WELCOME, LORD EARL!
AND WHAT SORT OF DAY WOULD THAT BE?
IT'S BEEN TOO LONG!
HAVE YOU BEEN WELL?
AH! I heard you celebrated your birthday not long ago? Good tidings to you!
NEVER MIND THAT!
WHY ARE YOU BLUSHING?
THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO ASK YOU.
AAH.

I SHALL PASS, THANK YOU.
BROTHER, WOULD YOU LIKE SOME?
WORD'S GOTTEN AROUND ALREADY, HAS IT? YOU'VE A SHARP EAR.
YES, I'M LOOKING INTO THAT SERIES OF INCIDENTS.
WHEN IT COMES TO ORIENTALS, TALKING TO YOU, THE BIGWIG OF THIS PATCH, IS ALWAYS THE MOST EXPEDIENT...
FOR THE EARL TO GO TO THE TROUBLE OF VISITING THIS DANK CELLAR OF AN OPIUM DEN MUST MEAN YOU'RE HERE...
...ABOUT *THAT*, YES?
BRITISH BRANCH MANAGER OF THE CHINESE TRADING COMPANY "KON RON."
...OR SHOULD I SAY...
...TOP OFFICIAL OF THE CHINESE CRIME SYNDICATE QING BANG—
LAU.

I'VE LEFT THE MANAGE-MENT OF THE ORIENTAL QUARTER TO YOU
SO YOU'VE AN IDEA OF THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE COMING AND GOING AROUND THESE PARTS, YES?
STOP PUFFING AWAY AND HEAR ME OUT!
I REEEALLY WOULD PREFER YOU NOT CALL ME THAT.
IT'S MUCH TOO STUFFY AND ALL.
HE?
RIGHT?
ISN'T IT JUST, RAN-MAO?
SUCH IS THE PRICE I MUST PAY TO CONDUCT "BUSINESS" IN THIS COUNTRY'S UNDER-WORLD, AFTER ALL.
CER-TAINLY. I'M FOLLOW-ING YOUR ORDERS TO THE LETTER, LORD EARL.
NON, NON, THIS IS JUST A BIT OF MINT
KATAN (CLACK)
?
BUT FIRST, I HAVE A QUESTION TO POSE TO YOU AS WELL, MY LORD.
THEN—

THESE INCIDENTS OF WHICH YOU SPEAK... WHAT ARE THEY EXACTLY?
WE HAVE TO TAKE IT FROM THE TOP, NUH?
WHY, YOU...
HE WAS SIMPLY CHIMING IN WHEN HE THOUGHT IT APPROPRIATE.
I AM SURE OF THAT.
—OH, NOOW I SEE!
SO YOU'D LIKE TO CAPTURE THAT PRANKSTER!
THERE HAVEN'T BEEN ANY DEATHS YET, BUT THE GENTRY AND MILITARY PERSONNEL ARE BEING TARGETED.
AH, YOU HAVE TO MAKE AN EXAMPLE OF HIM TO KEEP THE COMMON FOLK IN LINE!
THERE SIMPLY IS NO END TO YOUR TROUBLES, MY LORD
WHAT DRIVEL.
INCIDENTALLY, WE HAVE WALKED QUITE A DISTANCE.
AT WHICH LODGING HOUSE ARE THE INDIANS BASED?
SFX: KYORO (PEER)
NN?
AH!
DO FORGIVE ME! I WAS SO CAUGHT UP IN OUR CONVERSATION THAT I THINK I MAY HAVE GOTTEN US LOST!
HA! HA! HA!
SILLY ME! ★
WHY, YOOOOU——!

SHUNPO (STEP)
PAR—
DON (WHAM)
THEN FIRST LET'S TRACE OUR STEPS BACK, AND—
OW!!
OWWWWW!!
I THINK I JUST CRACKED A RIIIIIB —!
WHA —!?
OH MY.
WAAH!
WAAH!
WHAT HAP-PENED !?
THIS'S TERRI-BLE!!
YOU OKAY !?
SOME-ONE HELP!

SUR-
(SURROUNDED)

SFX PASHI (WHAP)
YOU A NOBLE?
(GUI (TUG)
THE LITTLE MASTER'S AWFULLY WELL-DRESSED FOR AN EAST ENDER.

.....
AND ONCE AGAIN, YOU HAVE GOTTEN YOURSELF CAUGHT BY A SECOND-RATE THUG, YOUNG MASTER.
LEAVE EVERY-THING YOU'VE GOT ON YA BEHIND, YA HEAR !?
I GOTTA DEMAND DAMAGES FOR YOU BANGING INTO ME, KID!!

HOW SHALL WE DEAL WITH THIS?
HOW? JUST GET RID OF THEM QUICK.
AS YOU WISH.
SU (SNIF)
AND YA KNOW...
...THE INDIANS 'ROUND HERE HAVE IT IN FOR YOU NOBLES.
YOU DRAGGED US ALL THE WAY HERE, AND THEN JUST THREW US OUT LIKE TRASH!
THE LOT OF YOU BRITISH ARE SELF-SERVING BASTARDS !!
YEAH!!
YEAH!!
YEAH!!

IT'S YOUR FAULT WE'VE BEEN REDUCED TO LEADING LIVES OF MISERY, LIKE SEWER RATS!
YEAH!!
YEAH!!
YOU TRAMPLED OUR NATION UNDER YOUR SHOD FEET!
YEAH!!
YEAH!!
NOW TASTE THE HUMILIATION OF BEING PLUNDERED FOR YOURSELVES!
TASTE IT!!
YEAH!!
THAT ASIDE, THERE'S SOMETHING I SHOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU.
YEAH!!
YEAH!!
YEAH! FIRST OFF, I GOTTA ASK YOU SOMETHING!!
YEAH!!
IF YOU PROVE USEFUL, I'LL TREAT YOU TO SOMETHING DELICIOUS IN REWARD.
YEAH!!
YEAH!!
YEAH! SOMETHING DELICIOUS!!!
FISH!!
YEAH!!
I WAS JUST STARTING TO FEEL A BIT PECKISH!!
TYPICAL

QUIET DOWN, YOU LOT.
THAT ISN'T IIIT!!
DAH!
POKAAAN (STUNNED)
I'M LOOKING FOR SOME-ONE.
HAVE YOU SEEN AN INDIAN LIKE THIS?
HA (CAST)
DON'T INTERRUPT US, YOU CUR!
HUNH!?
HOW DARE YOU CALL ME A CUR. I AM ASKING YOU A QUESTION.
...NN?

WHAT'S GOING ON? ARE YOU FIGHTING A DUEL?
HEY, DON'T IGNO—
HE HAS A <KHANSAMA> WITH HIM...
ARE YOU...
...A BRITISH NOBLE?
HEY!
THEN I SHALL ALLY WITH MY BROTHERS IN THIS BATTLE.
AND WHAT IF I AM?
AGNI!

SU (SWF)
DEFEAT THEM!
YES, YOUR HIGH-NESS.
<JO AAGYAA.>
THIS RIGHT HAND, WITH WHICH GOD HAS BLESSED ME...
...SHALL I WIELD FOR MY MASTER.
SHURU (SHF)
KA (GLARE)
DAN (STOMP)

GRIP (GRAB)
WH—
GASHI (GRAB)
UWAH!?
BASH
SI (SWING)

DO (WHACK)
KYU (SQUEAK)
DO
DO
DO
SO SWIFT!
DON'T YOU DARE...
... FORGET ABOUT US!!
ZA (DASH)

AH!
BAKI (CRACK)
GA (CRUSH)
DA (DASH)
DA
DA
DA
HOLD
I—
SFX!
GA (CRACK)
I WILL TEND TO YOUR INJURIES PRESENTLY!
FOR-GIVE ME, BROTH-ER!
SFX FYUUUU (ZOOM)

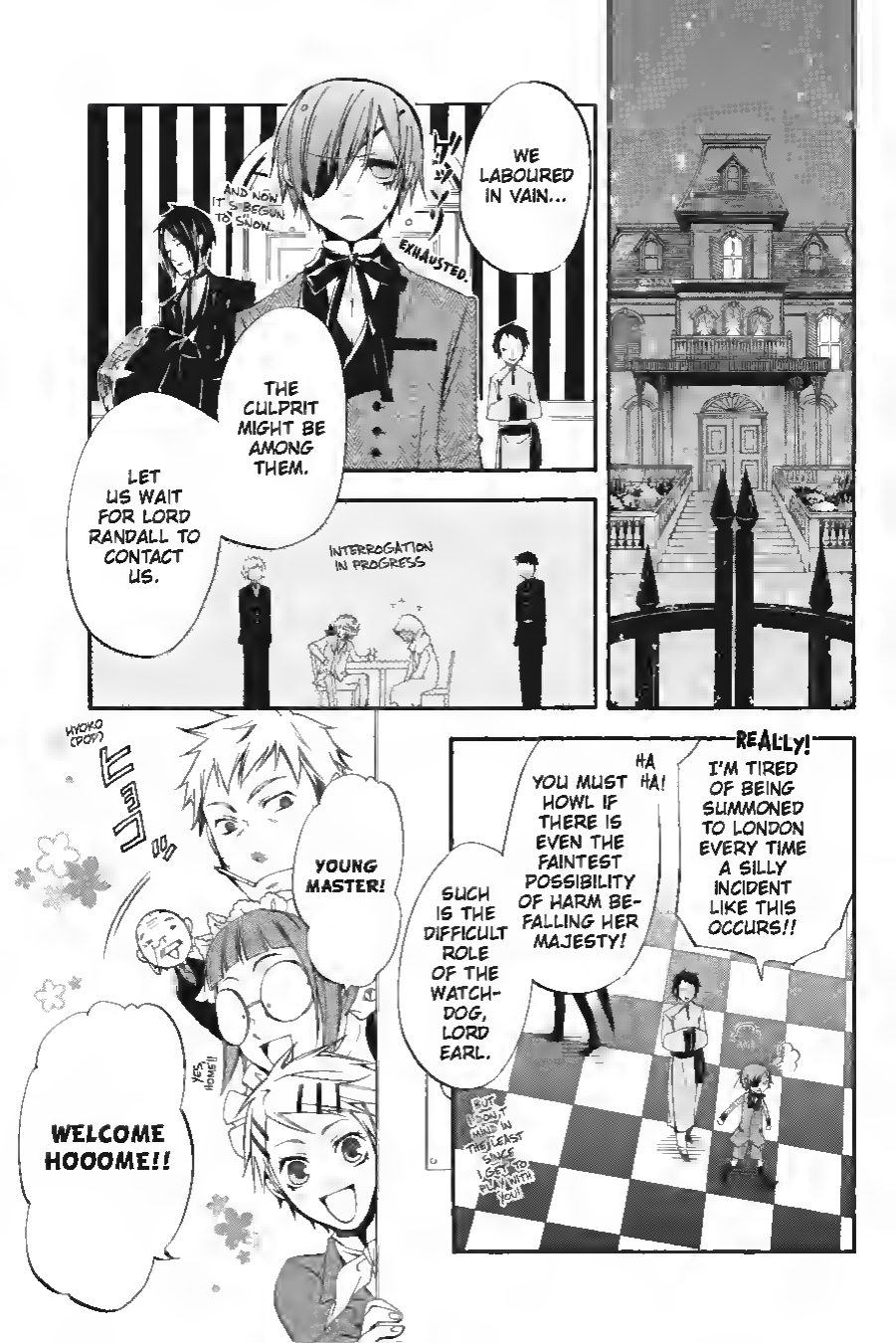
DO (WHAAN)
HYU (WHIZ)
DO
DO
DO
DO
DO
DO
DO
DO
DOZU (WHAM)
ZA (CRASH)

I HAVE STRUCK YOUR <MARMA> NUMEROUS TIMES.
NORMALLY, YOUR ARM WOULD BE PARALYSED BY NOW.
ZA (READY)
SO WHY CAN YOU STILL MOVE?
HAH!
HEY!
WE WERE JUST PASSING THROUGH WHEN THOSE INDIANS PICKED A FIGHT WITH US!
LET ME DOWN!
SFX: JITA BATA (STRUGGLE)
PIKU (PERK)
WHAT?
ARE ALL INDIANS BARBARIANS WHO INDISCRIMINATELY ATTACK ANY ENGLISHMAN THEY LAY THEIR EYES ON!?

THE FOOL IS HE WHO WAGES WAR WITHOUT CAUSE.
AGN!!
WE CAN'T HAVE THAT!
YOU THERE!
DID YOU ATTACK THE RUNT AND HIS COMPANION WITHOUT A VALID REASON?
HUNH?
REASON?
EH?
ALLY WITH THE RUNT AND COMPANY!
YES, YOUR HIGHNESS!
A
IN THIS CASE, OUR BROTHERS ARE AT FAULT!
RUNT
POKAAAN (DAZED)
ALL DONE, LORD SOMA!
GOOD!!
DOOOON (DEFEATED)

HEY, YOU TWO.
YOU'RE NOT HURT?
BOOZZEN (DAZED)
N—
NO...
BASU (WHAP)
AND YOU, RUNT.
A CHILD SHOULD NOT BE WANDERING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS. IT'S DANGEROUS.
!?
I'M STILL ON THE HUNT FOR SOMEONE, SO I'LL BE TAKING MY LEAVE.
BOW
FARE-WELL.
ZA (FWIP)
POKAN
LORD SOMA, YOU HAVE DONE A GOOD DEED!
IT WAS MY DUTY AS A CHILD OF GOD.

AND WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN THIS WHOLE TIME?
OH, DON'T BE LIKE THAT!
WHY, I WAS WAITING FOR A CHANCE TO SAVE YOU, OKAY?
MYYY—! THOSE TWO WERE SOME-THING ELSE!
IN ANY CASE, WHO WERE THEY?
THEY DON'T LIVE IN THE EAST END, THAT MUCH IS OBVIOUS.
GLITCHMP?
THEY WERE WELL-DRESSED.
AND THEIR ENGLISH WAS WITHOUT A TRACE OF AN ACCENT
LET US GO LEFT NEXT
ENGLISH ROADS ARE TOO COMPLI-CATED!!
BE THAT AS IT MAY...
...I SHOULD THINK OUR FIRST PRIORITY IS TO TAKE THESE PEOPLE TO THE CITY POLICE.
CRUNCH
CRUNCH


WE LABOURED IN VAIN...
EXHAUSTED.
AND NOW IT'S BEGUN TO SNOW.
THE CULPRIT MIGHT BE AMONG THEM.
LET US WAIT FOR LORD RANDALL TO CONTACT US.
INTERROGATION IN PROGRESS
REALLY!
I'M TIRED OF BEING SUMMONED TO LONDON EVERY TIME A SILLY INCIDENT LIKE THIS OCCURS!!
HA HA!
YOU MUST HOWL IF THERE IS EVEN THE FAINTEST POSSIBILITY OF HARM BEFALLING HER MAJESTY!
SUCH IS THE DIFFICULT ROLE OF THE WATCH-DOG, LORD EARL.
BUT I DON'T MIND IN THE LEAST SINCE I GET TO FUN WITH YOU!
HYOKO (POP?)
YOUNG MASTER!
YES, HOME!!
WELCOME HOOOME!!

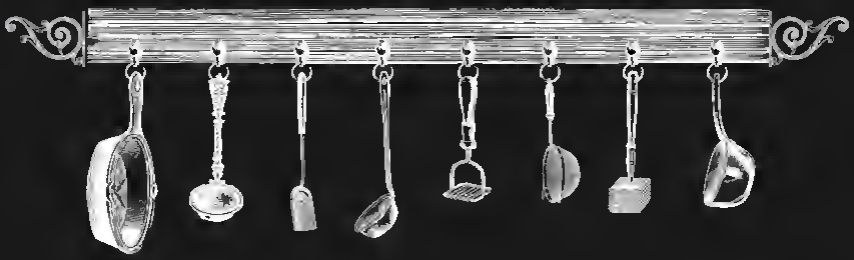
YOU BROUGHT YOUR SERVANTS WITH YOU THIS TIME?
?
YES. IT WOULD BE TROUBLE-SOME TO LEAVE THEM BEHIND AT THE MANOR.
OHHHH?
WELL,
YOU MUST BE WORN OUT FROM THE COLD.
I WILL HAVE TEA READY RIGHT AWAY.
HAAH
IN-DEED.
I WOULD PREFER CHAI TO ENGLISH TEA.
IN-DEED
EH?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, WHY? WE BECAME ACQUAINTED BUT A MOMENT AGO.
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN ME ALREADY?
BLUNT
WHY ARE YOU HERE!?
THIS IS AWFULLY SMALL COMPARED TO MY PALACE
WH—!?
WH—!?
IN INDIA, IT IS COMMONPLACE TO INVITE YOUR BENEFACTORS INTO YOUR HOME AND MAKE THEM WELCOME.
THERE'S A SAYING THAT GOES "ENTERTAIN YOUR GUESTS EVEN IF YOU HAVE TO SELL OFF YOUR HEIRLOOMS."
HUH?
AND I RESCUED YOU.
BECAME ACQUAINTED, YOU SAY..
RES...—!?
HOW?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
LOOOORD SOMAAAA!! THERE IS ONE HEEEERE!!
THAT IS WELL.
HEY!!
LISTEN TO ME!!
IN MY COUNTRY, ONE INVITES ONE'S GUESTS TO ONE'S BED TO SIT TOGETHER IN A CIRCLE, ENJOYING EACH OTHER'S COMPANY.
MYYYYYY PRIIINCE!
WHY A BED?
HEY, WHERE'S THE BED?
SFX. KYORO (GLANCE) KYORO

SFX: TOKO (TMP) TOKO
THEN, GOOD. IT IS A TAD SMALL, BUT WE SHALL STAY HERE FOR A WHILE. MUCH OBLIGED.
WAIT A MINUTE !!
WHY MUST I TAKE CARE OF YOU ALL OF A SUDDEN !?
HERE YOU ARE
OOH
I HAVEN'T GIVEN ANY THOUGHT TO OTHER LODGINGS.
BIKUN (FWUMP)
JUST WHO ARE YOU !?
GROOOOH GROO
MORE-OVER!
HEHOU HEHOU
BESIDES, IS IT CUSTOM FOR ENGLISHMEN TO THROW THEIR BENEFACTORS OUT INTO THE COLD?
ME?
I AM A PRINCE.
A PRINCE ...?

THIS GENTLEMAN IS THE TWENTY-SIXTH CHILD OF THE RAJA OF BENGAL...
...PRINCE SOMA ASMAN KADAR.
MY PRINCE! AGNI WILL MAKE SOME CHAI AS A TOKEN OF FRIENDSHIP!
I WILL BORROW THE KITCHEN!
SA (SWF)
ON A COLD DAY, CHAI FULL OF GINGER IS THE BEST.
WE SHALL BE IMPOSING UPON YOU FOR A BIT...
...RUNT.
RUN...
AH!
PLEASE WAIT. IF IT IS TEA YOU WANT, I SHALL—
AMAZIIIING!
SO YOU'RE REEEEALLY A PRIIINCE —!?
ZUI (SWF)

SFX: PO (BLUSH)
YOU MAY APPROACH.
FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN A REAL PRINCE IN THE FLESH.
A-a prince...
GAYA (NOISY)
IT IS A HOLY LAND BLESSED BY THE GODDESS KALI AND THE RIVER GANGES.
SO WHAT'S THIS BENGAL-WHATEVER COUNTRY LIIIIKE!?
YOU ARE THE PRINCE OF A SACRED COUNTRY, ARE YOU?
AH, IT'S IN EAST INDIA.
...
GAYA
THERE'RE TIGERS, TIGERS! NEVER EATEN ONE, THOUGH
HA HA HA!
GAYA
WELL, MY LORD. YOUR STAY SHOULD BE A LIVELY ONE.
.....!
GAYA
GET OOOOUT!!



Black Butler

Chapter 16

At noon : The Butler, Foreign

ROYAL

LIPTONS

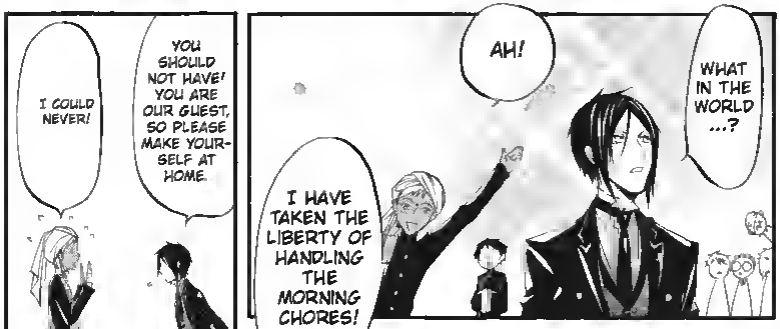
SOUP

LORD CIEL
IT IS TIME FOR YOU TO WAKE UP.
NN...?
モゾ... MOZO (STIR)
LORD...
...CIEL?
GOOD MORN-ING!
NU CLOOMO
!!?

WH—!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN MY ROOM!?
<NAMASTE JII>...
...LORD CIEL.
KON (KNOCK)
コンコン
KON
BREAKFAST IS READY.
PARDON ME...
GACHA (CLICK)
SFX: HYOKO (POP)
OH? THINGS ARE ALREADY LIVELY AT THIS HOUR!
ヒョコ
GYAAAAH! WAAAAH!
SFX: POKAN (DAZED)
GYAAAAH!
GYAAAAH!
JUST LET ME DOWN!
COME, LET US GO NOW!
...YOUNG—
BREAKFAST WILL GET COLD IF YOU DO NOT HURRY.
NOW JUST HANG ON!
WHAT THE HELL!?

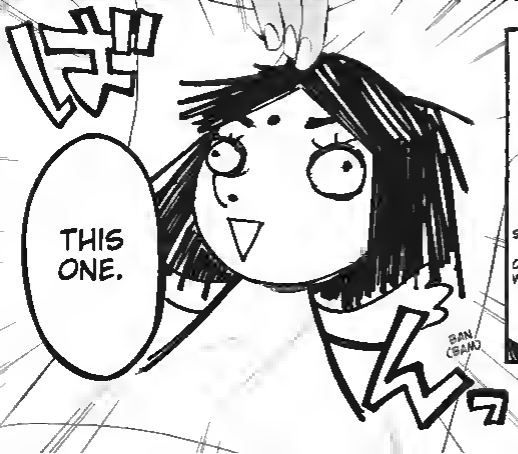
YOU THREE, YOU ARE IN THE PRESENCE OF OUR GUESTS
HFF!
HFF!
WHAT IS IT? HAS SOMETHING HAPPENED AGAIN—
MISTER SEBASTIAAAAAN!!
BATA
BATA
BATA (CRASH)
THE FOOD, IT'S—! THE GARDEN IT'S—! THE LAUNDRY IT'S—!
S—
SOME-THING'S WRONG!
REALLY, REALLY WRONG!
CRAZY WRONG!
WRONG IT IS!
WRONG ...?
COME COME!
LET US BE OFF!
PUT MEEE DOOOOWN!

ピロ
ジャジャジャジャ
ジャーン
SHARAAAAN (EXOTIC)
JAAAAN (TA-DAAA)
HOH! HOH! HOH!
HOH! HOH! HOH!
HOH! HOH! HOH!
PISHI (FLAP)


AH!
WHAT IN THE WORLD ...?
I HAVE TAKEN THE LIBERTY OF HANDLING THE MORNING CHORES!
YOU SHOULD NOT HAVE! YOU ARE OUR GUEST, SO PLEASE MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME.
I COULD NEVER!

MY PRINCE ASIDE, I...
...AM MERELY A BUTLER, SO...
...I FELT IT MY DUTY TO HELP MISTER SEBASTIAN.
PAAA (GLOW)
HALO.
Mister Agni...
JIIN (GLOW)
CHIRA (GLANCE)
NIKKORI (SMILE)
WHY DO YOU THREE NOT KOWTOW AND BEG MISTER AGNI FOR THE DIRT UNDER HIS NAILS?
YOUR LIVES MIGHT GAIN A LITTLE VALUE THAT WAY.
...SO?
KEH!
WAAH!
ME TOO-OOO!
WAAH!
GIMME THE DIRT UNDER YOUR NAILS, DIRT!!
EEH? WHAT IS GOING ON!?
WAAH!
ME THREE!

SFX: MOSSA (MUNCH) MOSSA



SFX: GOSO (RUMMAGE) GOSO

GAFU (CHOMP)
がぶ
GAFU
がぶ
YOU'LL KNOW RIGHT AWAY WHEN YOU SEE HER BECAUSE I DREW HER SO WELL! ISN'T SHE LOVELY?
I DREW IT.
THIS IS...
HER NAME IS MINA...
...AND SHE WAS A SERVANT IN MY PALACE.
HA HA!
OOOOH-
I MYSELF HAVE NEVER ENCOUNTERED A BEAUTY LIKE THIS, I SAAAY!
ZUUUUN (DOOM)
EVEN FOR ME, THIS IS A BIT, ERM...
WELL, I SHALL TRY.
SEBASTIAN, WILL YOU BE ABLE TO SEEK HER OUT WITH THIS...?
GEFFU (BURP)
げっぷ。
MY THANKS FOR THE MEAL.
TO BE EXPECTED! SHE WAS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN IN MY PALACE.
...SO.
WHY IS THAT WOMAN IN GREAT BRITAIN?

LISTEN TO ME!!!
SOME SORT OF PRAYER (TO CIEL AND COMPANY, IT SOUNDS LIKE THIS)
HONYARA
HONYARA CHUMSLED

IT LOOKS NOTHING SO MUCH AS A STATUE OF A WOMAN DANCING IN A FRENZY ON THE ABDOMEN OF A MAN WHILST CARRYING SEVERED HEADS AND WEARING A NECK-LACE OF SAID HEADS...
PRETTY MUCH.
...TO ME...

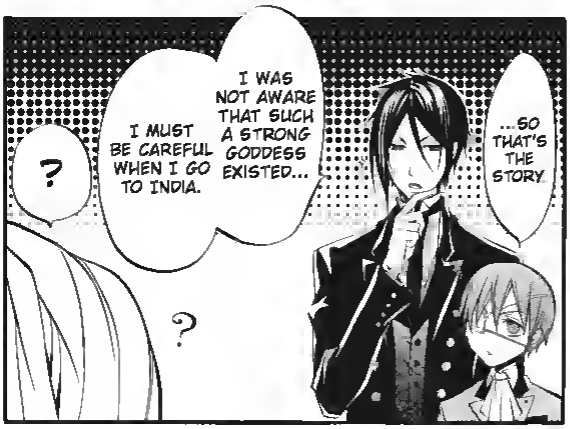
WHAT ARE THEY DOING, ALL OF A SUDDEN?
WHERE DID THEY GET THAT STATUE FROM?
THEY SEEM TO BE PRAYING, BUT THEIR OBJECT OF WORSHIP SEEMS QUITE SURREAL.
YOU WOULD CALL THAT AN OBJECT OF WOR-SHIP?

THIS IS A STATUE OF THE GODDESS KALI, A DEITY OF HINDUISM, OUR FAITH.
SO IT IS AN INDIAN GOD.
OUR GODDESS KALI IS THE WIFE OF THE GOD SHIVA AND THE GODDESS OF STRENGTH.
SHE PROTECTS AGAINST MISFORTUNES. THERE ARE ALSO OTHER DIVINE FAVORS.
SHUFFLING LEAFLETS
IN ANCIENT TIMES...
...A DEVIL DARED TO CHALLENGE THE GODDESS IN A BATTLE.
OF COURSE, THE GODDESS KALI WAS VICTORIOUS.
EVEN THE GODS COULD NOT STOP THE GODDESS KALI, AND THE EARTH WAS ABOUT TO FALL IN RUIN, WHEN...
...AT THAT VERY MOMENT —!!
ZA (STEP)
IT SOUNDS AS IF THE GODDESS CAUSED MORE HARM THAN THE DEVIL.
TRUE! AMEN!
HOWEVER, SHE COULD NOT STOP R GING...
...AND CONTINUED TO DESTROY AND KILL.
SHE KEPT ON KILLING MADE A NECKLACE OF SEVERED HEADS DRANK BLOOD

HER HUSBAND, THE GOD SHIVA, LAY DOWN AT HER FEET TO PROTECT THE LAND.
HAUAH!
AAH! THAT IS WHY SHE IS STEPPING ON HIM.
I HAD ASSUMED THEY WERE SIMPLY HAVING A LOVERS' QUARREL!
THE HUSBAND WAS VERY SLOW TO ACT.
WASN'T HE TOO LATE? IN A WHOLE NUMBER OF WAYS?

THEREFORE, THE GODDESS KALI IS A SUPREME DEITY WHO ENGAGED IN MORTAL COMBAT TO DEFEAT THE DEVIL.

WHEN SHE STEPPED ON HER HUSBAND WITH HER UNCLEAN FOOT, THE GODDESS KALI RETURNED TO HER SENSES AND PEACE RETURNED TO THE LAND.
OH NOOO!
DARLING, I'M SORRY!
HA HA! YOU TOMBOY YOU!


I MUST BE CAREFUL WHEN I GO TO INDIA.
I WAS NOT AWARE THAT SUCH A STRONG GODDESS EXISTED...
?
?
...SO THAT'S THE STORY
THAT IS WHY SHE HOLDS THE SEVERED HEAD OF THE DEVIL.
GEEEH...

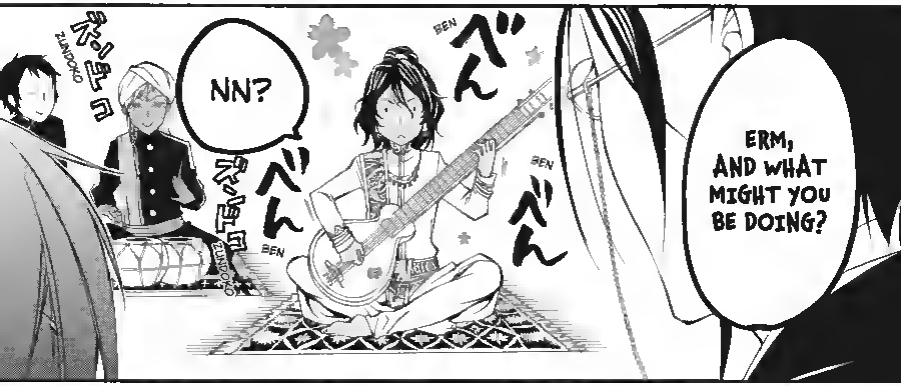
GASSHI (GRAB)
がっし!
YOU'LL GUIDE US.
WHY ME!?
...SO LET'S GO, RUNT!
WELL, WE'RE DONE PRAYING ...
PAMU (PAT)
THEN, CIEL! I ORDER YOU TO GUIDE US.
ZURI
CONE
ZURI (DRAG)
AND FURTHER-MORE, I AM NOT THE "RUNT." I AM CIEL...
ZURI
FORGIVE ME, BUT...
...THE YOUNG MASTER HAS A FULL SCHEDULE WITH HIS STUDIES AND WORK TODAY.
GU (GWP)

—NOW.
AM 10:00
Violin lesson
TCHHH!
AS YOU CAN SEE, I'M BUSY.
PHEW.
FIND YOUR QUARRY ON YOUR OWN.
WHILE YOU ARE IN LONDON, I SHALL TUTOR YOU...
...IN PLACE OF THE LADY GOVERN-ESSES.
← HE BEGINS BY "LOOKING THE PART" IN TUTOR MODE.
FIRST, LET US PRACTICE THE "PAR-TITA NO. 2" FOR SOLO VIOLIN.
Partita II
BWV 1004
BACH'S CHA-CONNE" ...
GEH!
I WON'T BE ABLE TO PLAY...

※ COMMON NAME FOR THE FIFTH PIECE OF J.S. BACH'S "PARTITA NO. 2 IN D MINOR FOR SOLO VIOLIN"

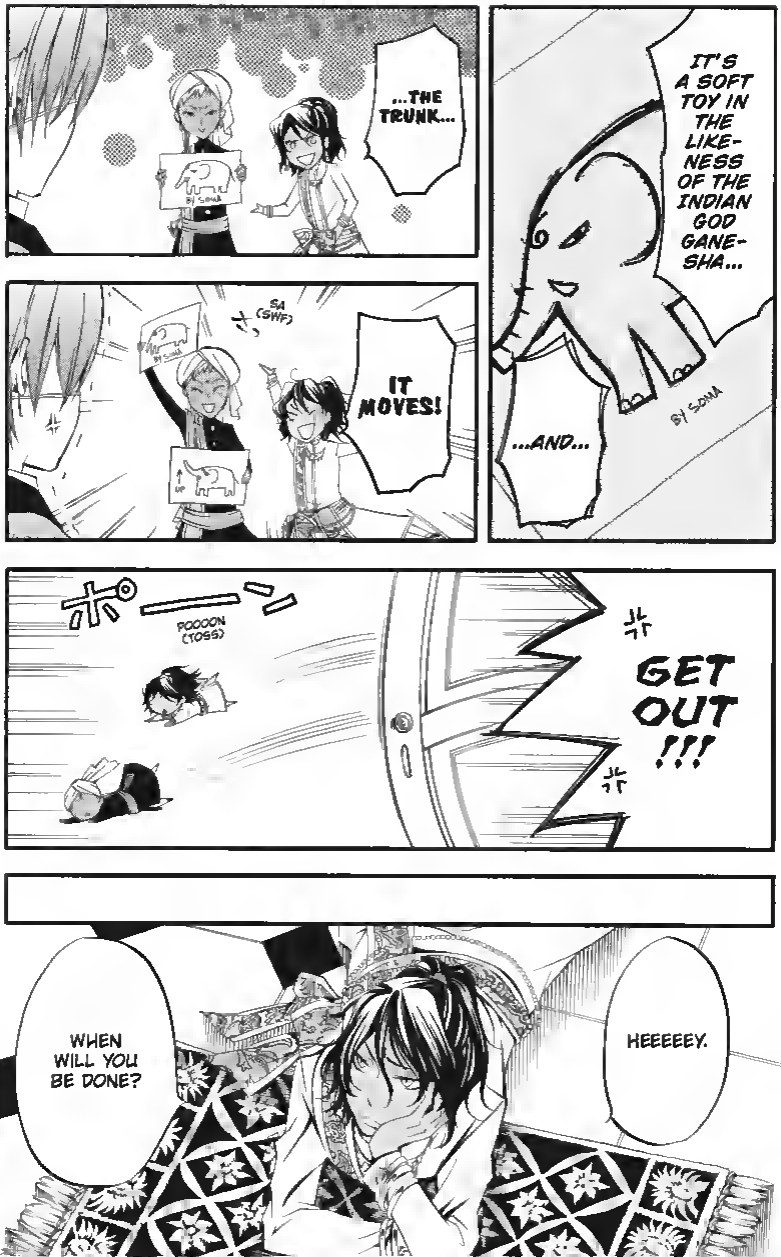
YOU WILL GAIN CONFIDENCE IF YOU BEGIN BY MASTERING THE DIFFICULT PIECES FIRST.
I LAY DOWN THE RULES HERE.
AND NATURALLY, I AM VERY STRICT.
KU (RAISE)
...SUCH A HARD PIECE—
!
GOOD.
NOW HOLD THE BOW READY.
.....
SHIBU (QUIET)
NIKKORI (SMILE)
DO YOU HAVE ANY ISSUES WITH MY TEACHING METHOD?
SFX. SHIBU (RELUCTANTLY)
JUST LIKE THAT.
WITH THE KEY OF D MINOR, IT IS IMPORTANT TO EXPRESS SOLEMNITY AND REVERENCE WITH YOUR TIMBRE.

SFX: ZUNDOKO (THOK) ZUNDOKO ZUNDOKO



NOW IT IS TIME FOR DRAWING.
AM 11:00
Drawing lesson
ペシ!
PE (TOSS)
GET OUT!
WHAT IS THIS? DRAWING A BOTTLE IS DULL!
LOOK AT HOW THINGS ARE BALANCED AND GIVE DEPTH TO YOUR DRAWING.
I WILL UNDRESS IN FRONT OF ONLY ONE MAN, I WILL!
OR SHALL I UNDRESS HER?
STRIP!
ビシ!!
BISHI! (OOINK)
THERE-FORE, WOMAN!
YOU MUST DRAW NAKED WOMEN.

SAMPLES OF THE CHRISTMAS PRODUCTS HAVE ARRIVED FROM THE YORKSHIRE FACTORY.
PM 1:00
Suntom Corp
Business
PE (TOSS)
GET OUT!
PAN (CRACK)
THE NEW CHRISTMAS CRACK-ERS ARE SELLING WELL AT HARRODS.
ALSO, HEAD-QUARTERS HAS SENT OVER THE PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR'S GOODS.
NN.
I HAD THEM REVISE THIS, AND IT FEELS GOOD.
HOWEVER, CHILDREN ARE DIFFICULT TO PLEASE. WE MUST KEEP PRO-VIDING NEW NOVELTIES.
MOFFU (FLUFF!)
FEAST YOUR EYES!!
PROPOSAL
ZABA (BAM)
OH?
AND SO I HAVE INVENTED ONE SUCH NEW PROD-UCT JUST FOR YOU!!


...THE TRUNK...
BY SONIA
IT'S A SOFT TOY IN THE LIKE-NESS OF THE INDIAN GOD GANE-SHA...
...AND...
BY SONIA
SA (SWF)
IT MOVES!
UP
POOOON (TOSS)
GET OUT !!!
WHEN WILL YOU BE DONE?
HEEEEEY.

I CAN'T CONCEN-TRATE!!
IRK IRK
IRK IRK
IRK IRK
ARGH! SHUT UP !!!
HEEEY! HEEEY!
WHAT ARE YOU DOOO-ING?
HEEEEY, IIIIIII SAIIIIID.
HEEEY!
HEEEEY!
HEEEEEEEY!
PM 2:00
Sencing lesson
BA (SNATCH)
ALL RIGHT.
ENOUGH.
HFF! HFF!
Booooo!
C'MON, YOU DON'T HAVE TO GET SO ANGRY.

I'LL TAKE YOU ON IF YOU'RE SO DESPERATE FOR ATTENTION.
HYU (WHIZ)
BASHI (WHAP)
I ONLY KNOW KALARIPAYATTU AND SILAMBUM,* BUT...
...WELL, WHY NOT.
SHURUN (FLIP)
※ TRADITIONAL INDIAN MARTIAL ARTS
SO IF I WIN IN THIS...
...YOU WILL PLAY WITH ME, RIGHT?
IF YOU CAN WIN, THAT IS.
IF YOU LOSE, BEHAVE YOURSELF AND STAY OUT OF MY WAY!

WE WILL PLAY FIVE ROUNDS OF THREE MINUTES EACH.
THE FENCER WITH THE MOST POINTS WINS.
ALL RIGHT?
NOW...
...BEGIN!
DA (DASH)
YOU ARE MINE!!
BA (SWING)

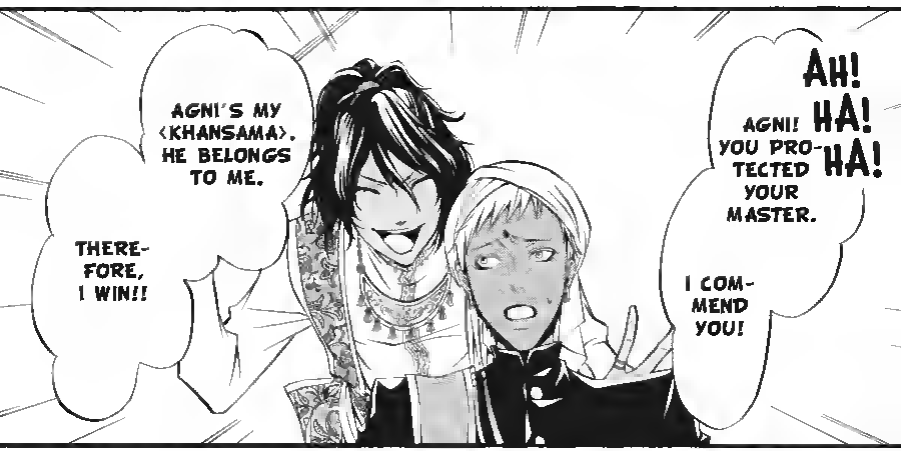
!!?
THE BLADE BENT!?
KUNSHT (BEND)
THE LEG IS NOT A VALID TARGET AREA OF THE FOIL.
WAH!
(THRUST)
TOO BAD!!
WHAT IS A VALID TARGET AREA!?
I DON'T KNOW THE RULES!
YOU COW-ARD!

SFX: BUN (SWING) BUN

IN FENCING, YOU THRUST FORWARD.
IF YOU SWING YOUR FOIL SIDE-WAYS...
HAH!!
...YOUR VALID TARGET AREA IS COM-PLETELY VULNER-ABLE!!
SI (THRUST)
BA (CRASH)
PRINCE!!
LOOK OUT!!

!!
!?
DO (STAB)
GAKUN (SLUMP)
KAN (CLANG)
SHIN (SILENCE)

SFX BIRI (TINGLE) BIRI



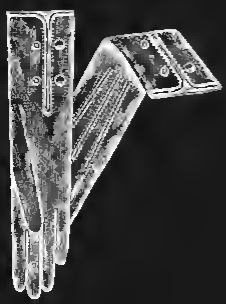
...MASTER BUTLER.
FASHI (WHAP)
HYU (TOSS)
NOW YOU MUST AVENGE YOUR LORD...
CIEL'S <KHAN-SAMA>.
ARE YOU GOING TO FIGHT?
HAAH...
GOODNESS... ALL THIS BECAUSE YOU WERE NASTY TO A COMPLETE AMATEUR WHO DOES NOT KNOW THE RULES.
WHA——!?
HOW-EVER...

...MY MASTER HAS BEEN INJURED.
AS BUTLER TO THE PHANTOM-HIVE FAMILY, I MUST DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.
SU (SWF)
HYU (SWING)
Moreover, we have fallen ten minutes behind schedule.
THAT'S YOUR REAL MOTIVE, ISN'T IT.
SFX: BOSO (MUMBLE)
INTER-ESTING.
VERY WELL.
I APPROVE OF THE DUEL!
SU

AGNI!
IN THE NAME OF OUR GODDESS KALI, WIN THIS MATCH!

ZA (READY)
SEBASTIAN.
I COM-MAND YOU.
SHUT THAT BRAT UP!

<JO AAGYAA.>
YES, MY LORD.



Black Butler

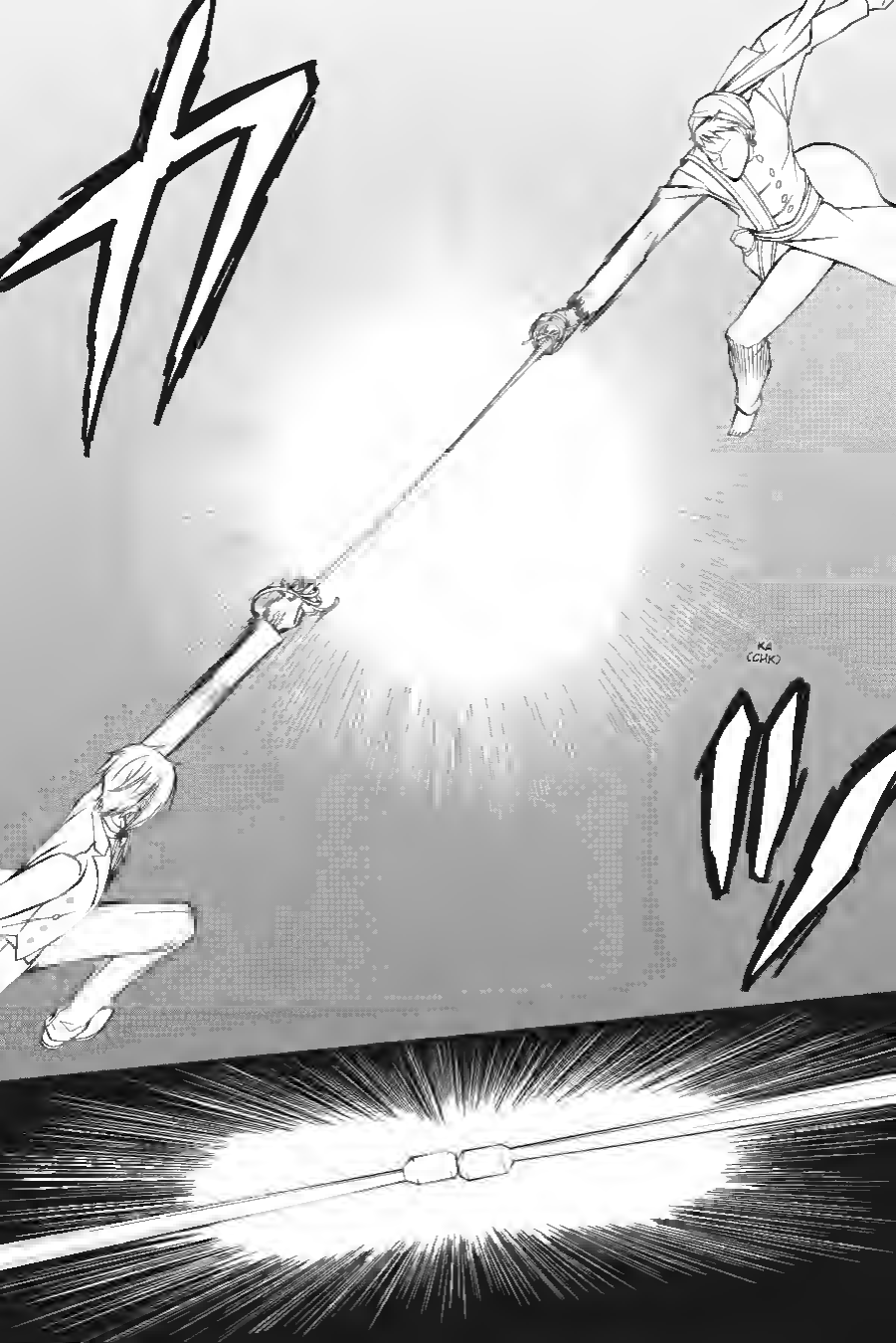
Chapter 17

In the afternoon : The Butler, Competitive

YES, MY LORD.
<JO AAGYAA.>
HERE I COME!!
...PRAY, DO GO EASY ON ME.
WELL...

HAH!

KIN
(CLANG)


KA
(CHK)

KIN (CLANG)

KIN (CLANG)
OH DEAR.
PASH! (WHAP)
THE BLADE IS BROKEN.
!!
HA (GASP)

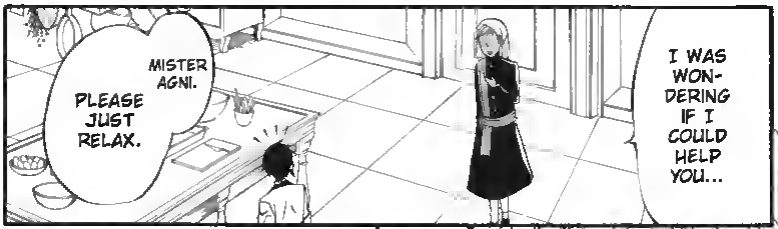
TOO BAD
WE CAN-NOT CON-TINUE, THEN.
THIS MATCH IS A DRAW.
A DRAW !?
AGNI'S THE BEST FIGHTER IN MY PALACE.
YOU ARE THE FIRST TO FIGHT EQUALLY AGAINST HIM!
HE WAS FIGHTING AGAINST SEBAS-TIAN!
HMM!
CIEL'S <KHAN-SAMA> FARED PRETTY WELL!
THAT MAN...
...HELD HIS OWN AGAINST A DEVIL!

I AM MOST HONOURED.
I LIKE YOU!
CIEL'S <KHANSAMA>! I SHALL EXCUSE YOU TODAY IN DEFERENCE TO YOUR SKILLS.
I NEVER WOULD HAVE GUESSED YOU WERE BUT A BEGINNER.
MY PLEA-SURE.
MISTER SEBASTIAN, THANK YOU FOR BEING MY OPPONENT.
MISTER AGNI IS A VERY QUICK STUDY.
.....
OH NO!
PLEASE!
DOES YOUR ARM STILL HURT?
N-NO...
LORD CIEL.
I APOLOGISE FOR MY EARLIER ACTIONS.

SEBAS-
TIAN.
HO
(RELIEVED)
ホッ
I AM
GLAD!
COULD
HE...
...BE...
WHAT...
IS THAT
MAN?
NO,
HE IS
HUMAN.
HER
ANOTHER ONE
OF THOSE..
DON'T
TELL ME
HE'S...
I'M A GRIM
REAPER FOR
DEATH!

...HE HAS POWERS THAT WE CAN NEVER HOLD...
...YOU SEE.
I SEE ...
SFX: HO (RELIEVED)
GASSH! (GRAB)
UGH !?
COME, CIEL! LET US HAVE ANOTHER ROUND!
I WON'T LOSE THIS TIME!
SO HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU I AM BUSY!?
YES...HE IS ONLY HUMAN.
... HOWEVER ...
TODAY, I'LL DO MY BEST TO—
I CAN'T LET THAT INDIAN SHOW ME UP!
AAALL RIGHT!
SFX: PA (SNATCH)
I WILL COOK, SO PLEASE DO NOT DO ANYTHING.
NO, THANK YOU.

WE ARE ALREADY HALF AN HOUR BEHIND SCHEDULE ...
DAMN ONE MORE TIME!
HEY! C'MON. TODAY, I WAS GONNA COO MY SPECIAL HEY, YOU LISTEN
GYAH!
SEBASTIAN, YA HEAR ME!?
GYAH!
OH, I SAY
PLEASE DO BE QUIET FOR A SPEL—
MISTER SEBAS-TIAN.
MAY I COME IN?
JUSTA
(TOKO-TOP)


I WAS WON-DERING IF I COULD HELP YOU...
MISTER AGNI.
PLEASE JUST RELAX.

WE CAN GET THINGS DONE FASTER WITH TWO OF US!
I SHALL DO WHATEVER YOU ASK OF ME.

THEN...
...MAY I ASK YOU TO PREPARE THE GOOSEBERRY SAUCE FOR TODAY'S MAIN DISH AND THE COTTAGE PIE?
NGAH!
OF COURSE!
↓DEPENDS ON THE REGION
NO PORK OR BEEF
BECAUSE THEY ARE INDIAN
Cottage Pie
I AP-PRECIATE YOUR THOUGHT-FULNESS.
LET US USE MINCED CHICKEN FOR THE COTTAGE PIE.
THEY ARE MY OWN
HERE ARE THE RECIPES.
GATA (CLATTER)
TCH!
BON (BLAM)
HEY! WHY'S HE GET TO WORK WHILE YOU'RE TELLIN' ME I'M IN THE WAY!?
SHIN (SHIN)
YOU ARE IN THE WAY.
NON
BALDO, STOP BEING AN OBSTRUC-TION AND PLEASE STEP ASIDE.
SO MUCH TO DO SO MUCH TO DO

—NN-HNH?
...CHEF.
—F.
MISTER CHEF!
CHEF CHEF CHEF
ECHOES
I AM NOT ACCUS-TOMED TO COOKING BRITISH FOOD.
WILL YOU PLEASE HELP ME?
がばっ!!
GABA (SLURP)
YES!
CHEF!!
CH—
CHEF!!? YOU TALKIN' TO ME!?
SFX: JIIIIN (MOVED)
THEN WILL YOU CHOP THE ONIONS?
SPLENDID!!
ALREADY PEELED
'COS I'M THE CHEF AFTER ALL!
Y—
YEAH!! LEMME HANDLE IT!

SFX: DO DA (CHOP) DA DA DA DA
WHOOOOO-OOOOOO-OOOOOAH!
SOMETHING SMELLS SOOOO YUMMY-YYYY!
YOU ARE MOST DEPENDABLE!!
LEAVE IT TO ME!!
'COS I'M THE CHEF!!
PIECE OF CAKE!
EH, ME!?
WILL YOU NOT HELP ME PREPARE THE MEAL?
MY BOY! YOU HAVE COME AT A GOOD TIME.
WHAT'S FOR DINNER TONIGHT, HMMM?
ROLLED POTATOES
STEAM
WE MUST MASH THESE POTATOES WITH A SPOON, THEN PUREE THEM...
YOU ARE STRONG? EXCELLENT!
UH... BUT... MISTER SEBASTIAN'S TOLD ME NOT TO TOUCH ANYTHING IN THE KITCHEN 'COS OF MY SUPER-STRENGTH ...

I THINK I CAN DO THAT!
I WANNA DO IT! PLEASE LET ME HELP!
...BUT IT REQUIRES MUCH EFFORT AND STRENGTH.
MAY I ASK YOU TO DO IT?
REQUIRES A LOT OF STRENGTH ?
THERE ARE MANY POTATOES!
'KAAAY !!!
We are counting on you!
SFX: DO (CHOP) DO DO DO DO
YAAAY IT'S LIKE PLAYING WITH MUD!
OH?
OH THE TABLE IS ALREADY SET!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
TH—
THEN I SHALL PREPARE THE TABLE-WARE!
MISTER SEBAS-TIAN IS COOKING IN THE REAR KITCHEN.
WHERE IS MISTER SEBAS-TIAN?

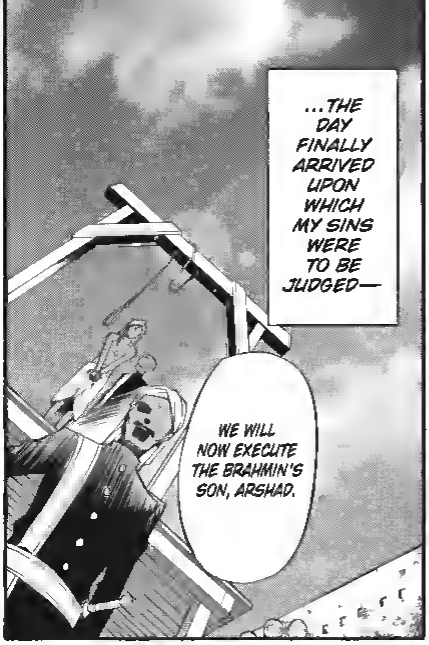
GASHI (GRAB)
WATCH OUT!!
UM, THE PLATTERS, THE SALAD PLATES, AND...
AH WAH WAH!
GURA (WOBBLE)
PANTRY
SUTON (SET)
YOU ARE UNHARMED, MISS MAID?
YES, I AM.
LIKE A BREATH OF FRESH AIR
Platters must be heavy for a lady. When you must retrieve them from a high shelf, it is safer if you get them down one at a time.
You would not want to drop them and hurt yourself.
HOW ARE THINGS GOING, MISTER AGNI?
ARE THEY COMING ALONG WELL?
...Yes...
I UNDERSTAND...
SFX: PO (BLUSH)

わい!
WAI (CHERRY)
わい!
WAI
YES!
WE ARE DOING FINE!
AH!
MISTER SEBASTIAAAAN!! LOOK, I MASHED THE POTATOES FOR THE PIE!!
HOH! HOH! HOH!
わい
WAI
The table has already been set too, it has!
I POLISHED THE SILVER
PO (BLUSH)
EH-HEN!
'COS I'M THE CHEF!
I CHOPPED UP THE ONIONS, AND NOW I'M DOIN' THE GARNISH!
SKILLED NIGHTA-BLES
BIKKURI! (SHOCKED)
EH-HEN!
Thanks to everyone, the food should turn out to be delicious!
HOH! HOH!
HOH! HOH!

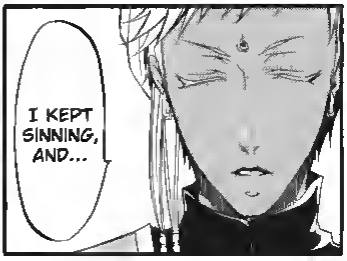
THEY WORK HARD. THEY ARE GOOD PEOPLE!
NO... I AM JUST AMAZED THAT YOU WERE ABLE TO GET THEM TO HELP YOU.
WELL, THEY ARE NOT EVIL PER SE...
CAREFUL WITH THOSE NOW YA GOT ME?
HERE YOU GO THE PIE PLATES!
ALLL RIGHT, LET'S PUT THE PIES ON THEIR DISHES!
?
MISTER SEBASTIAN?
EVERYONE IS BORN WITH A GIFT.
EACH OF US HAS A PATH AND A GOD-GIVEN DUTY.
WE CHILDREN OF GOD MUST SIMPLY FOLLOW THE PATH WE ARE SET UPON...
...AND DO WHAT WE HAVE BEEN SET HERE TO DO WITHOUT HASTE.
.....
HOW DO I PUT THIS...
MISTER AGNI IS TRULY A MAN OF FINE CHARACTER.
I CANNOT BELIEVE A HUMAN BEING LIKE YOU ACTUALLY EXISTS
OH NO, NOT AT ALL!

THE DEBT I OWE HIM IS ONE I WILL NEVER, EVER BE ABLE TO REPAY...
...I WAS A HOPELESS <PAAGAL> UNTIL I MET MY PRINCE.
HOW-EVER...
...MY FATHER WAS A BRAHMIN ONLY IN NAME. AND I, WHO HAD GROWN UP WATCHING HIM ENVELOPED IN LUST AND GREED, LOST MY FAITH IN GOD.
BRAHMIN
KSHATRIYA
VAISHYA
SHUDRA
MY CLAN WAS BRAHMIN, PART OF THE HIGHEST CASTE,* MEMBERS OF WHICH WERE ALLOWED TO SERVE GOD.
TAKING ADVANTAGE OF MY SOCIAL STATUS, I SINNED DAY IN AND DAY OUT.
.....

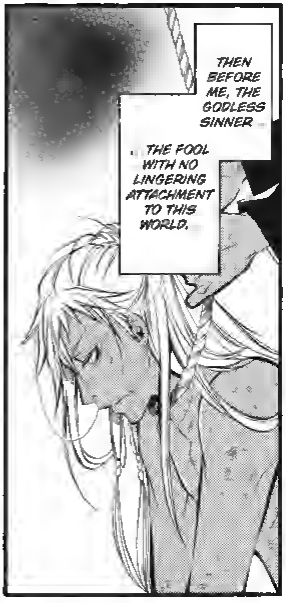
*CASTE: A FOUR-LEVEL SOCIAL CLASS SYSTEM RELATED TO HINDUISM. THE SYSTEM WAS OUTLAWED IN 1950.


...THE DAY FINALLY ARRIVED UPON WHICH MY SINS WERE TO BE JUDGED—
WE WILL NOW EXECUTE THE BRAHMIN'S SON, ARSHAD.

I HURT PEOPLE.
I BLASPHEMED AGAINST GOD.


I KEPT SINNING, AND...

ZAWA (MURMUR)
THE MAN WHO HAD THROWN EVERYTHING AWAY—
HEY, YOU THERE.


THEN BEFORE ME, THE GODLESS SINNER
THE FOOL WITH NO LINGERING ATTACHMENT TO THIS WORLD.

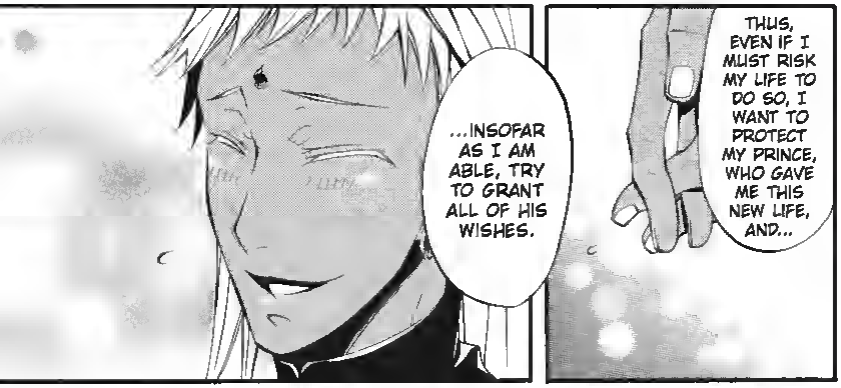
AS OF TODAY, YOU'LL BE MY NEW SPARRING PARTNER!
HOW AMUSING.
TAN (TMP)
MY PRINCE! WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
ZA (STEP)
I'VE HEARD YOU'RE A FEROCIOUS MAN WITH THE STRENGTH OF AN UNTAMED BEAST!
ZAWA
AHHHH, SHUT UP, WOULD YOU!?
NO, MY PRINCE.
HE IS FOR THE HANGMAN'S NOOSE—!
THE PERSON YOU WERE HAS NOW DIED.
BASA (FLIAP)
ZA (SHK)
YOU SHALL BE REINCAR-NATED WITH A NEW NAME AND A NEW LIFE.
THEN HOW ABOUT WE DO THIS?

I AM SOMA ASMAN KADAR, THE TWENTY-SIXTH CHILD OF THE RAJA.
AND I SHALL BE YOUR MASTER FROM THIS DAY FORTH.
...GOD APPEARED.
ALL RIGHT, AGNI !?
AND HE MADE ME REALISE THAT THE DIVINE RESIDED INSIDE OF THIS MAN—

MISTER AGNI, THE POT IS BOILING OVER.
HAUAAAH—!
THAT DAY, I SAW THE FACE OF GOD RADIATING HOLY LIGHT FROM WITHIN MY PRINCE!!
AS THOUGH HE WERE RAMA-KRISHNA HIMSELF!!

SFX: SHUUUU (STEAM) SHUUUU

HE IS BOTH MY RAJA AND MY GOD.
AH, FORGIVE ME.
GOD YOU SAY!
I HAVE BEEN IN MY PRINCE'S SERVICE EVER SINCE.
EYAH!
THAT'S TOO MUCH!
EYAH!
GOOD IDEA
LET'S PUT A FLAG ON THE TOP


...INSOFAR AS I AM ABLE, TRY TO GRANT ALL OF HIS WISHES.
THUS, EVEN IF I MUST RISK MY LIFE TO DO SO, I WANT TO PROTECT MY PRINCE, WHO GAVE ME THIS NEW LIFE, AND...

WHY IS THERE A FLAG ON THIS PIE..?
TONIGHT'S DINNER
Mackerel with gooseberry sauce and cottage pie
—AND SO?
WHO IS THIS WOMAN YOU ARE LOOKING FOR?
SHE HAS WAITED ON ME SINCE I WAS BORN. SHE'S LIKE MY NANNY.
WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER EVER SINCE I CAN REMEMBER.
I WAS ALWAYS ALONE IN THE PALACE...
...AND MOTHER IS SO DESPERATE FOR HIS ATTENTION, SHE HAS NO TIME FOR ME.
GAFU (CHOMP)
FATHER HAS NO INTEREST IN ME...
GAFU

I WAS NEVER LONELY IF MINA WAS WITH ME.
I LOVED MINA, AND MINA LOVED ME.
SHE WAS CHEERFUL, BEAUTIFUL, AND TAUGHT ME MANY THINGS, JUST AS AN OLDER SISTER MIGHT.
BUT MINA WAS ALWAYS BY MY SIDE.
A BRITISH NOBLE CAME...
DON (BANG)
...AND TOOK MINA AWAY TO GREAT BRITAIN!
BUT...
HE...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

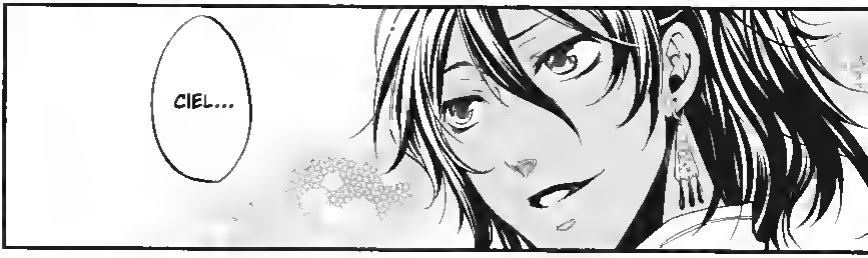
QUEEN VICTORIA, EMPRESS OF INDIA, RECOGNISES THE DOMESTIC ADMINISTRATIVE RIGHTS OF BENGAL, BUT...
...IN TRUTH, THE POLITICAL ADVISOR SENT FROM GREAT BRITAIN CONTROLS MOST OF THE POLITICS.
KUUU (FWU?)
SO THE REALITY IS WE'RE NOT MUCH DIFFERENT FROM A COLONY.
AND THREE MONTHS AGO, HE CAME AS A GUEST OF THAT POLITICAL ADVISOR!
BUTSH (STAB)
THAT FELLOW SET HIS EYES ON MINA AT MY PALACE...
...AND TOOK MINA AWAY TO GREAT BRITAIN BY FORCE...
...WHILE I WAS OUT INSPECTING THE TOWN!!
SO YOU CAME TO GREAT BRITAIN TO RETRIEVE YOUR WOMAN.
YES!
I'LL GET HER BACK, AND WE'LL ALL GO HOME TOGETHER.

THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS "OVER-BOARD" IN THIS CASE!!
GATA (RISE)
THE PALACE WITHOUT MINA IS LIKE AN EMPTY BOX!!
STILL, YOU ARE GOING A BIT OVER-BOARD JUST FOR ONE SERVANT GIRL—
HAAH...
CAN YOU UNDER-STAND JUST HOW SAD I—!
CAN'T SAY I DO.
CAN YOU UNDER-STAND THE DESPAIR I FELT WHEN I WAS FORCIBLY SEPARATED FROM MINA!?
GA (GRAB)
...!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT, NOR DO I WANT TO.
THE DESPAIR CAUSED BY SUCH A TRIVIAL OCCURRENCE DOESN'T AMOUNT TO MUCH.

PASHI (WHAP)
YOU MIGHT NOT QUITE BE ABLE TO GRASP THAT, THOUGH.
THERE IS ALSO DESPAIR FROM WHICH ONE CANNOT ESCAPE.
THERE ARE THINGS THAT CANNOT BE RECOVERED, NO MATTER HOW MUCH ONE MAY STRUGGLE.
GYU (CLENCH)
BUT...
BUT STILL, I...
...DON'T WANT...
...TO BE ALONE IN THAT PALACE ANYMORE...
BATIN (SLAM)

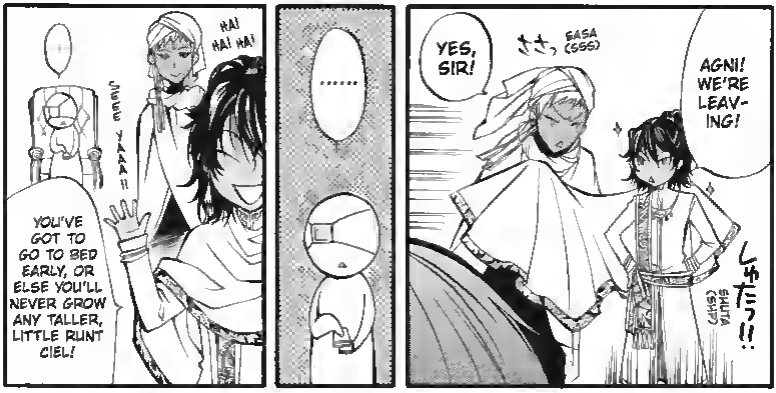
.....
GYU
ギュっ…
THERE ARE THINGS THAT CANNOT BE RECOVERED, NO MATTER HOW MUCH ONE MAY STRUGGLE—
SFX: PACHI (CRACKLE) PACHI
ポーン
PON (TOSS)
パチパチ
(CRACKLE)

...I'LL PLAY WITH YOU UNTIL BED-TIME.
I'M DONE FOR THE DAY.
EH...
GATAN (CLACK)
YOU WOULDN'T KNOW THE RULES OF CHESS.
BUT YOU SHOULD KNOW HOW TO PLAY OLD MAID, RIGHT?
SFX: PACHI PACHI
SFX: PACHI (CRACKLE) PACHI


CIEL...

I'M NOT DOING THIS FOR YOU.
IT'S ONLY BECAUSE I'VE NOTHING BETTER TO DO AT THE MOMENT, THAT'S ALL.

キっ
AH.
SORRY, BUT I HAVE PLANS FOR THE EVENING.
I'M BUSY, UNLIKE YOU!
KIPPARI (FLATLY)
ぱり


HA! HA! HA!
JUEE YAAA !!
YOU'VE GOT TO GO TO BED EARLY, OR ELSE YOU'LL NEVER GROW ANY TALLER, LITTLE RUNT CIEL!
.....
YES, SIR!
ささ SASA (SSG)
AGNI! WE'RE LEAVING!
しゅたっ!! SHUTA (SHT)

SFX: GO (RUMBLE) GO GO GO GO
ゴゴゴゴゴ
NN?
AH.
HERE YOU ARE, EARL! SAY—
SFX: HYO (POP)
ギ
HNH?
GIRO (GLARE)
ぐしゃ
GUSHA (CRUSH)
SUTA (STOMP)
スタ
SUTA
スタ
SHUT UP!
DON'T FOLLOW ME!!
Feeling a bit blue, are we, hmmm?
Ohhhh?
What-ever is the matter, my lord?
SFX: NOKO (TRIP) NOKO

Black Butler

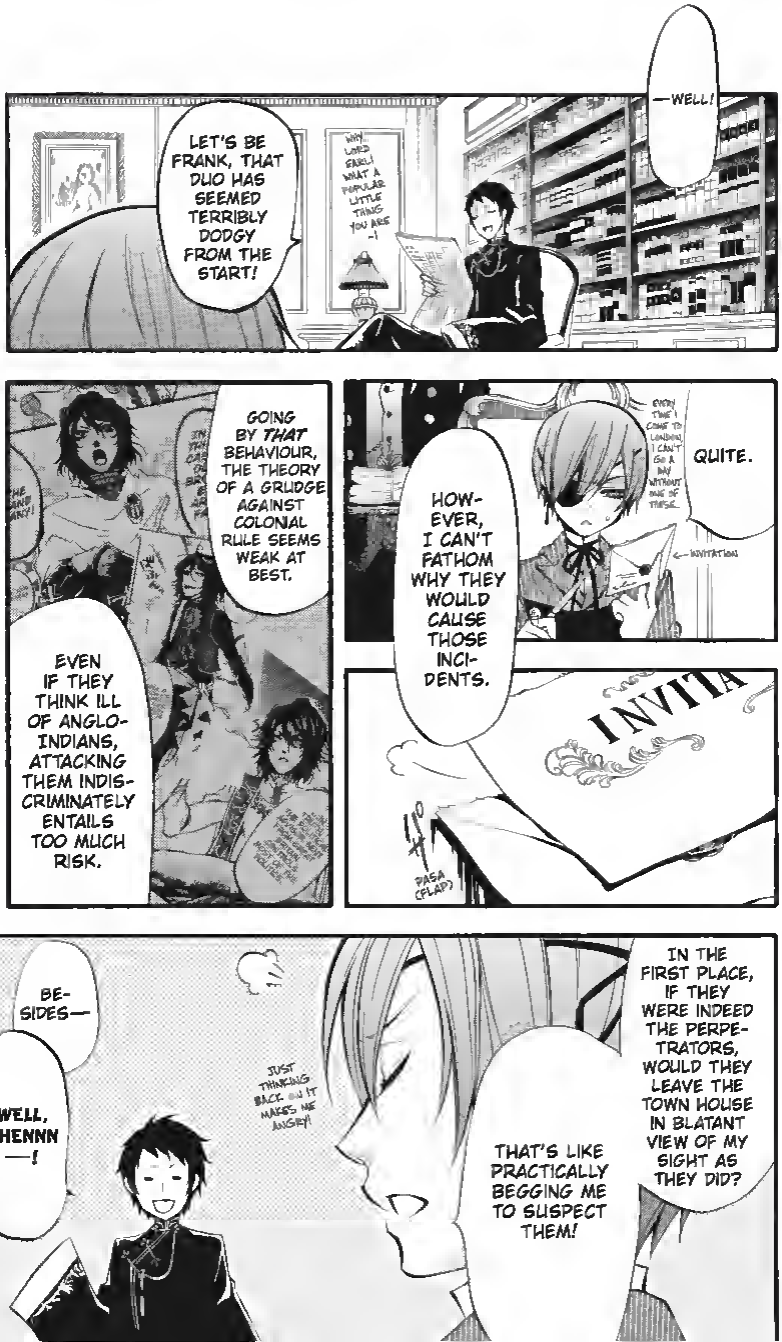
Chapter 18

At night : The Butler, Shadowing

Black Butler

PARA (FLIP)
SHUUU (STEAM)
THE
KACHA (CLINK)
KACHA
KACHA (KACHAK)
PARDON ME, SIR...
OH?
YOUR BEING AWAKE AT THIS HOUR IS QUITE UNUSUAL.
SFX: GARA (RATTLE) GARA

I COULDN'T SLEEP WELL BECAUSE I WAS TOO DAMNED IRRITATED.
TCH!
THOSE TWO DIDN'T GET BACK TILL LATE LAST NIGHT, AFTER ALL.
I MEAN, WHAT IN THE —!
BASA (FLIP)
ANOTHER MYSTERIOUS ATTACK
A Coffeehouse in Piccadilly Circus severely damage
ANOTHER MYSTERIOUS ATTACK!
A COFFEE-HOUSE IN PICCADILLY CIRCUS SEVERELY DAMAGED!


—WELL!
LET'S BE FRANK, THAT DUO HAS SEEMED TERRIBLY DODGY FROM THE START!
WHY, LORD EARL! WHAT A POPULAR LITTLE THING YOU ARE —!
GOING BY THAT BEHAVIOUR, THE THEORY OF A GRUDGE AGAINST COLONIAL RULE SEEMS WEAK AT BEST.
EVEN IF THEY THINK ILL OF ANGLO-INDIANS, ATTACKING THEM INDISCRIMINATELY ENTAILS TOO MUCH RISK.
EVERY TIME I COME TO LONDON, I CAN'T GO A DAY WITHOUT ONE OF THESE.
QUITE.
INVITATION
HOWEVER, I CAN'T FATHOM WHY THEY WOULD CAUSE THOSE INCIDENTS.
INVITA
PASA (FLAP)
IN THE FIRST PLACE, IF THEY WERE INDEED THE PERPETRATORS, WOULD THEY LEAVE THE TOWN HOUSE IN BLATANT VIEW OF MY SIGHT AS THEY DID?
THAT'S LIKE PRACTICALLY BEGGING ME TO SUSPECT THEM!
JUST THINKING BACK ON IT MAKES ME ANGRY!
BESIDES—
WELL, THENNN —!

NIGHT FALLS
Right?
TO EXPEDIATE MATTERS, YOU JUST HAVE TO TRAIL THEM AT NIGHT.
BATAN (SHUT)
GRR.
WELL, WE'RE HEADING OUT, OKAY?
HURRY TO BED, LITTLE RUNT CIEL!
PUB

BY ALL APPEARANCES THEY REALLY ARE JUST TRYING TO FIND SOMEONE, HMMM?
ひょっこり
HYOKO (POP)
BRRR, IT'S COLD...
IN ORDER TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT SOMEONE IN ENGLAND, THE FIRST STOP SHOULD ALWAYS BE THE LOCAL PUBS AND CLUBS
THEY AREN'T DOING ANYTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY.
1 A.M. ...
LET US HEAD BACK AS WELL.
THEY WILL BE RETURNING TO THE TOWN HOUSE SHORTLY.
PATAN (SHUT)
KI (CREAK)

2:45 A.M.
HE IS ON THE MOVE, AS EXPECTED.
SWOOSH

ALL RIGHT, MASTER—
WAIT!
!
So sleepy
YOUNG MASTER
HE IS ON THE MOVE.
HYO (POP)
I WAS AWARE THAT AGNI WOULD SOMETIMES GO OUT AFTER I'D GONE TO BED.
I WANT TO KNOW ...
...WHAT HE'S UP TO.
YOU ...!
TAKE ME WITH YOU AS WELL.
!
IF MEMORY SERVES, THIS IS...
HE WENT INTO THIS BUILDING.

SFX: POMU (PAT)
ぽむ
NOW, NOW, YOUR HIGHNESS. PATIENCE, PATIENCE.
WHOSE HOUSE IS THIS?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

I SEE. NOW I'M STARTING TO GET THE PICTURE.

...AND I BOTH... 'KAY?

IT WILL BE CLEAR ONCE YOU'VE GONE INSIDE.
AND THEN YOU WILL BE FORCED TO FACE THE TRUTH, WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT.
YOU...

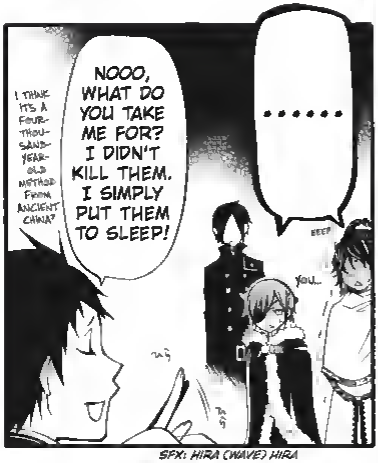
YES! ☆
BY THE "AND I," I TAKE IT YOU HAVEN'T A CLUE EITHER?
NKO LIVES HERE?

I HAD THE DISTINCT DISPLEASURE OF MEETING HIM ONCE...
HE'S AN UNSAVOURY SORT WHO LOVES ALL KINDS OF TITLES.
THIS RESIDENCE BELONGS TO HAROLD WEST JEB, WHO RUNS AN EXTENSIVE IMPORT BUSINESS.

HE MAINLY IMPORTS SPICES AND TEA LEAVES FROM INDIA, AND...
...RUNS "HAROLD TRADING," A GENERAL STORE...
...AND THE "HAROLD WEST," A HINDUSTANI COFFEE-HOUSE.
WHY WOULD AGNI GO TO AN IMPORTER'S HOUSE?
IMPORTS, HMM? WE'RE IN THE SAME BUSINESS, THEN.
...IT SEEMS THE COMPANY REPRESENTATIVE, MISTER WEST HIMSELF, JUST HAPPENED TO BE AWAY AT THE TIME OF THE INCIDENTS AND ESCAPED BEING HUNG.
WHILST INVESTIGATING MISS MINA, I HAPPENED ACROSS MISTER WEST'S NAME IN SOME OF THE DOCUMENTS I WAS REVIEWING.
PER THOSE PAPERS, BENGAL IS INDEED THE MAIN SOURCE OF HIS WARES ...
.. AND HE HAS SUFFERED COLLATERAL DAMAGE FROM THE HANGING INCIDENTS... BUT...
THERE'S NOTHING FOR IT... LET'S GO TAKE A LOOK.
AS YOU WISH, SIR.
(SWIP)

IT IS FASTER THIS WAY.
TO (TMP)
YOU IDI—!
DAN (LEAP)
GASA (RUSTLE)
YOU ALL RIGHT?
!!
GMOOZOO (HURRY)

ZAWA (KSSHO
BA (LEAP)
CIEL!!
WHINE
WHINE
ZURU (BACK)
ZURU
HEH.
WHAT COWARDLY GUARD DOGS MISTER WEST KEEPS.
OH?
THE HOUNDS ARE FALLING BACK ...?
HOHHH THERE, LORD EARLLL!
.....


I THINK IT'S A FOUR-THOUSAND-YEAR-OLD METHOD FROM ANCIENT CHINA?
NOOO, WHAT DO YOU TAKE ME FOR? I DIDN'T KILL THEM. I SIMPLY PUT THEM TO SLEEP!
.....
BEEP
YOU..

SFX: HIRA (WAVE) HIRA

SFX: HISO (WHISPER) HISO

YOU'VE DONE A SPLENDID JOB.
DON'T LOOK SO TORMENTED, OLD CHAP.
WHY NOT HAVE A CIGAR AND RELAX?
THIS IS A FIRST-CLASS HAVANA CIGAR I BOUGHT FROM JAMES FOX, THE ROYAL WARRANT HOLDER.
.....
WELL, IN ANY CASE...
...THE PLAN HAS BEEN EXECUTED TO PERFECTION SO FAR. EVERYTHING WILL BE RESOLVED IN A WEEK'S TIME.

AND AS LONG AS I HAVE THIS "RIGHT HAND OF GOD," MY SCHEME WILL BE REALISED!
IF I CAN CARRY OUT MY MISSION AS PROM-ISED...
...MINA WI—
THREE LONG YEARS I'VE WAITED.
I'LL SEE MYSELF VICTORI-OUS IN THIS, NO MATTER WHAT!

!!?
BAM (BANG)
MINA!?
YOU BLOODY F—!
HE KNOWS THE YOUNG MASTER AND I. LET US SEE HOW THINGS PROCEED BEFORE RUSHING IN.
Mmph!
M-MY PRINCE—
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS, AGNI!?
HAVE YOU KNOWN WHERE MINA IS ALL ALONG !?
AAH... SO THAT'S YOUR MASTER, HM...
...AGNI?

AGNI!
KNOCK HIM DOWN!
YOU...
...ARE THE SWINE WHO TOOK MINA AWAY.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
AGNI!
.....!
AGNI.
THROW HIS ANNOYING HIGHNESS OUT OF HERE.
HMPH!

HAAAAH...
.....
...IT WOULD SEEM A QUARREL HAS ENSUED.
CAN'T YOU HEAR WHAT I'M SAYING?
WHA—!?
SFX: HISO (WHISPER) HISO HISO HISO HISO
BUT INFORMING THE YARD IS A PAIN, SO WHAT DO YOU SAY WE BEAT THEM SILLY AND GO HOME?
...INDEED.
AS IT HAS TO DO WITH POLITE SOCIETY AND ALL...
AND THAT MEANS THIS IS ALL OUTSIDE OF THE EARL'S JURISDICTION.
...THEY NO LONGER SEEM TO BE "INCIDENTS OF THE UNDERWORLD."
THOUGH THERE'S NO MISTAKING WEST'S INVOLVMENT WITH THE HANGINGS BASED ON THEIR LITTLE CHAT...
BUT WEST KNOWS WHAT YOU TWO LOOK LIKE, RIGHT?
HISO
HISO
THAT HE DOES.
PLEASE LET ME HANDLE IT.
TONIGHT, WE'LL BE LEAVING HERE WITH THAT THICK-HEADED PRINCE.
THAT DOESN'T SOUND HALF-BAD, BUT I HAVE ANOTHER IDEA. LET'S LEAVE WEST AT LARGE FOR A WHILE LONGER.

AGNI, WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU!?
EXPLAIN YOUR-SELF!
I HAVE A GOOD IDEA OF MY OWN.
I HAVE NOTHING TO TELL YOU.
PLEASE LEAVE NOW.
I...
GOOD BOY.
WHAT ARE YOU SAY—
WH—
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO HIM!?
GA (GRAB)
...YOU BAS-TARD!!

LET ME GO, AGNI! WHY ARE YOU DOING AS HE SAYS!?
PLEASE STOP!
GARA (GRAB)
!!?
AGNI.
GIVE HIS HIGHNESS THE PRINCE A GOOD WHACK TO SHUT HIM UP.
WELL, I NEVER!
MY GIEVES & HAWKES SUIT IS ALL WRINKLED!
AGNI!
GET YOUR HANDS OFF OF ME!
Y'KNOW, FOR THOSE CHAPS WHO ARE A BIT HARD OF HEARING, A GOOD BEATING ALWAYS DOES THE TRICK!

I'M ONLY TELLING YOU TO ROUGH HIM UP A BIT TO GET HIM TO BITE HIS TONGUE.
AREN'T I A NICE FELLOW?
HA-HA! WHAT'S WRONG?
I'M NOT ORDERING YOU TO KILL HIM.
AGNI!
AGNI...
ぎゅっ
GYU (SQUEEZE)
BA (SWING)

!?
BASH!
(SLAP)

A DEER?

SFX: FUKA FUKA (DEEP BOW)

FO—
FORGET THE PRINCE, THIS MIGHT BE ONE OF THE ENEMY'S SPIES!
AGNI!
NOTHING OF THE SORT I AM MERELY A HUMBLE DEE—
KILL HIM!!
PUTTING ON THAT MOUNTED DEER HEAD AND GOING IN WAS A STROKE OF BRILLIANCE, MASTER BUTLER!
ARE WE TALKING ABOUT THE SAME "IDEA" HERE?
DO YOU WANT ME TO RENEGE ON THAT PROMISE!?
I'M ORDERING YOU!
KILL—! I CANNOT DO SUCH—
SHUT UP!
DO IT!!
I...
I...!
GIRI
GIRI (CLENCH)
PO (DRIP)
POTA (DRIP)

MY GOD...MY MASTER... IS BUT ONE AND NO OTHER...
GAKUN (COLLAPSE)
...AND FOR HE ALONE WOULD I USE MY RIGHT HAND...
...SO HAD I VOWED.
POTA (DRIP)
POTA
NOW I SHALL COMMIT A SIN BY BETRAYING THAT GOD...
GIRU (CLENCH)
AGNI... NO...!
PLEASE FORGIVE ME!
GU (TUG)
BUCHI (RIP)
BUCHI

DO (WHAM)
GYAAAAH! NOT THE CHEST I BOUGHT AT GENERAL TRADIIII-INNNG!
AAA
GAHA (CRUMBLE)
GAHA
DO.
SFX GASHAAN (CRASH)
MY ROYAL WOR-CESTER TABLE WAAARE!
STOPPP! THAT'S A ONE-OF-A-KIND GALLÉ LAMP FROM THOMAS GOODE!
MY LOOK E EO WAAAT!
BAKI (WHAM)
ZA (CRASH)

PEOPLE WILL START TAKING NOTE OF THIS COMMOTION!
ONCE YOU'VE GRABBED THE PRINCE, YOU'D BETTER RUN FOR IT TOO!
...! HEY!

AS YOU WISH.

THIS IS ALL STARTING TO LOOK A MITE DANGEROUS. WE SHOULD TAKE OUR LEAVE NOW, MY LORD.
DOKA (WHAM)
BYOI (CLIP)
ZUDON (SLAM)
UWAH!
MY LIMITED EDITION MEISSEN CUUUP
MY SPECIAL-ORDERED

.....
HAH!
HAH!
BUT MY FACE APPEARS TERRIFIED!

OOO (WHOOSH)

DON (WHAM)

IT WAS BEYOND ANYTHING THAT COULD BE DEFINED AS HUMAN.
AMAZING, WASN'T HE? THAT FELLOW FROM BEFORE.
SAMA-DHI?
HE WAS IN THE STATE OF "SAMA-DHI."
IT IS TO DO WITH RELIGION, YES?
A KIND OF TRANCE STATE.
NO ONE CAN LAY A HAND ON HIM WHEN HE GETS LIKE THAT.
HUMAN BEINGS ARE RARE CREATURES THAT CAN PRODUCE TREMENDOUS POWER DERIVED FROM INTENSE BELIEF THAT GIVES WAY TO A KIND OF BLIND FAITH.
THE NORSE VIKINGS OF YORE BECAME BERSERK-ERS IN THE NAME OF THEIR WAR GOD ODIN...
...THE PALADINS OF THE CRUSADES FOUGHT IN THE NAME OF YAHWEH BY INVADING FOREIGN LANDS TIME AND TIME AGAIN...

IT IS POWER THAT OUR LIKE CANNOT BOAST...
...THAT WHICH IS BORN OF BELIEF IN AND LOVE FOR ANOTHER...
...A POWER KNOWN AS "FAITH."
HE TOO NUMBERS AMONG THEM.
BECAUSE OF HIS ABSOLUTE DEVOTION TO HIS "GOD" AND "MASTER," PRINCE SO...
...HE CAN INVOKE POWER THAT IS BEYOND HUMAN.
WHY DID HE WILLFULLY ABANDON ME!?
GASHAAN (CRASH)
SFX: BOSO (MUMBLE)
THEN WHY...
...DID HE BETRAY ME?

WHY DOES EVERYONE LEAVE MY SIDE!?
WHY!?
HOW COME...
...! WHY, YOU...
WHY!!?
GASHAN
KRAH!
KRAH!
OH DEAR...
DA DAMN
THERE GOES THE HAVILAND TEA SET I SENT AWAY FOR BECAUSE I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE PERFECT FOR YOUNG MASTER...
WE DUCKED, SO WE'RE FINE.
ARE YOU TWO ALL RIGHT?

KACHA (CLICK)
...THE UNRULY PRINCE NEEDS TO BE RETAUGHT HIS MANNERS A TOUCH.
I DO BELIEVE ...
SFX: KA (CLICK)
YOU KNAVE!
WHO GAVE YOU PERMISSION TO ENTER THIS—
BASAA (FLAP)
ROTA (THUNK)
...! WHA !!?

YOU IN-SOLENT FOO—
WHICH OF US IS BEING INSOLENT?
!?
DOING AS YOU PLEASE AND LEAVING A MESS IN YOUR WAKE...
YOU HAVE MADE A FINE PEST OF YOUR-SELF.
WHA ...!?
ぬかっ
YOU ARE IN ENGLAND, AT THE RESIDENCE OF EARL PHANTOM-HIVE.
THIS IS NEITHER YOUR COUNTRY, NOR YOUR CASTLE.
HERE, IN THIS PLACE, YOU HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO RIGHT TO ORDER ANYTHING OF ME.
HERE, YOU ARE NOTHING MORE THAN A WHELP.

A POWERLESS CHILD WHO CANNOT DO ANYTHING UNLESS MISTER AGNI IS WITH YOU.
AND NOW YOU HAVE ALSO BEEN BETRAYED BY HIM, YOUR LAST RAY OF LIGHT.
YES ...
I HAVEN'T ANYTHING LEFT.
I'VE LOST IT ALL ...
LOST? WHAT AMAZING PERSECUTORY DELUSIONS YOU HAVE THERE.
HEH!
YOU HAVE NOT LOST ANYTHING...
...AS YOU HAD NOTHING TO LOSE TO BEGIN WITH.
EH...?

YOUR PARENTS GAVE YOU YOUR STATUS. YOUR PARENTS GAVE YOU YOUR PALACE. YOUR PARENTS GAVE YOU YOUR SERVANTS.
FROM THE VERY BEGINNING, NONE OF IT WAS EVER YOUR OWN.
DO I NOT SPEAK THE TRUTH?
EVEN WHEN IT CAME TO MISTER AGNI, YOU HAD AN INKLING OF SOMETHING BEING AMISS THERE. YES?
BUT YOU HAD NOT THE COURAGE TO ASCERTAIN THE MATTER YOURSELF.
Y...—!
DA DASHO
YOU'RE WRONG!

BAAN (BANG)
AH, BUT I AM NOT WRONG, AM I?
I SEE. SO NOW THAT REALITY IS BEING THRUST IN YOUR FACE, YOU HAVE DECIDED TO AFFECT THE ROLE OF THE TRAGIC HERO THIS TIME?
HEH.
YOU TRULY ARE A PA-THETIC, HOPE-LESS BRAT.
BUT... BUT...!
EVERY-ONE SAID THEY WOULD ALWAYS STAY BY MY SIDE —!
LIP SERVICE, OF COURSE

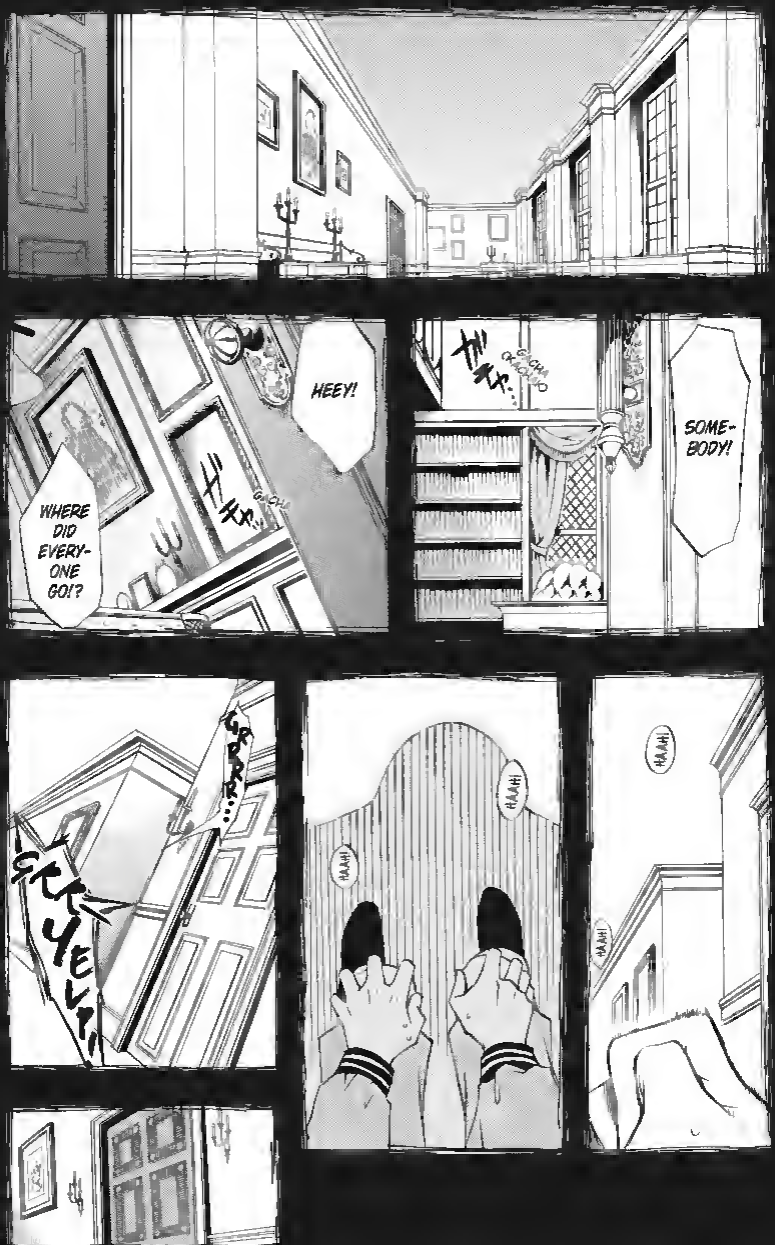
NO ONE SERVES ANOTHER WITHOUT A REWARD.
EVEN A THREE-YEAR-OLD FROM THE SLUMS KNOWS THAT MUCH.
NOT A ONE OF THEM EVER LOVED YOU.
I... I—!
LET'S LEAVE IT AT THAT.
YOUNG MASTER.
I MIGHT'VE ENDED UP JUST LIKE HIM...

—IF NOT FOR...
...THAT ONE LONG MONTH—

Black Butler

Chapter 19

At midnight : The Butler, Superhuman


HEEY!
WHERE DID EVERY-ONE GO!?
GACHA
GACHA...
GACHA CHACHA
SOME-BODY!
GRRR...
ERK YEAH!
HAAH!
HAAH!
HAAH!

SEBASTIAN ...?
NUTU (GRIP)
MOTHER!
FATHER!
SOME-ONE HELP ME!
EVERY-ONE'S GOING TO DIE!
RAN (BANG)

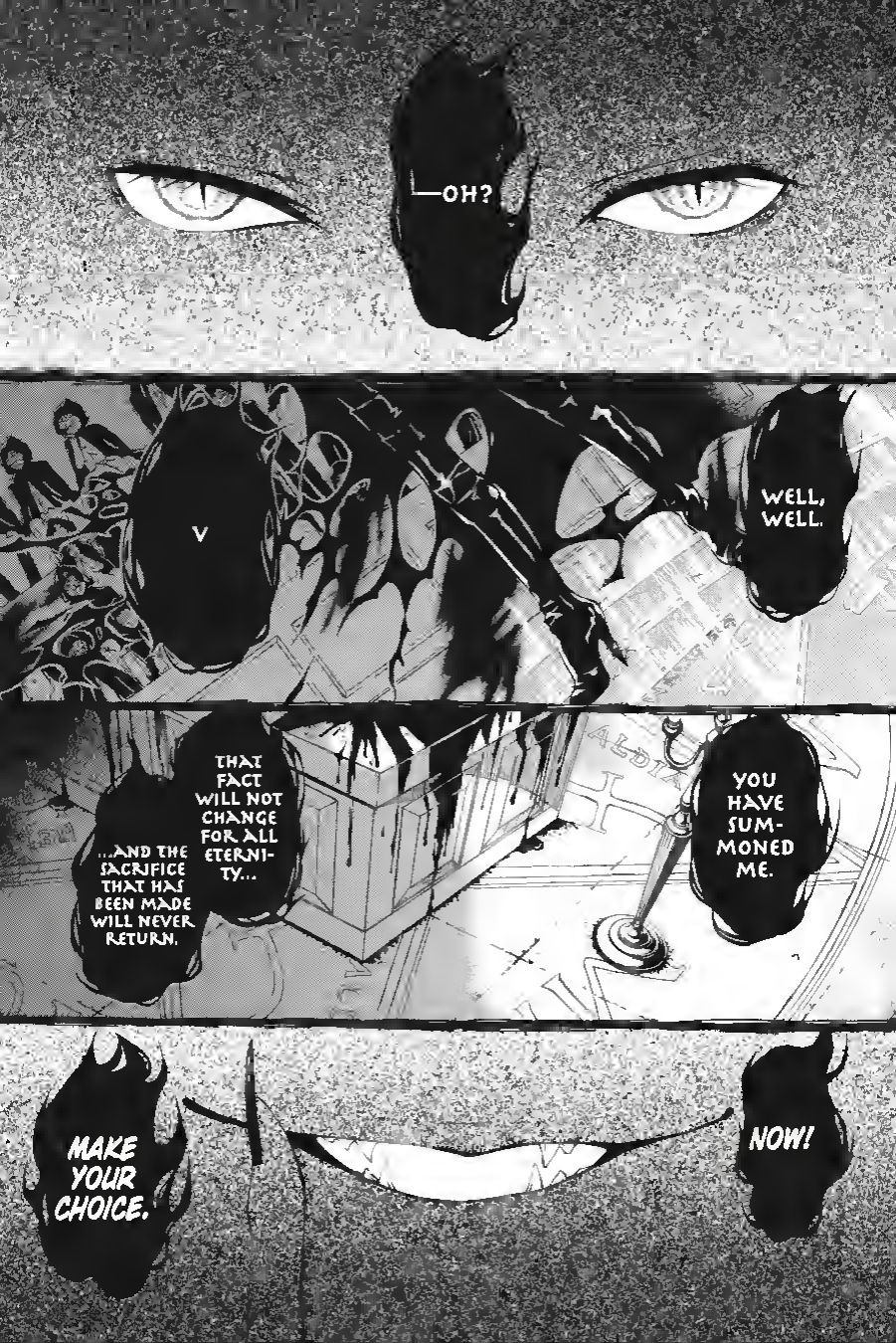
YOU MUST NOT COME OVER HERE!
TANAKA!
HELP ME!
GURA (CRAZY)
THIS IS ALL TOO AWFUL FOR Y—
LORD CIEL...
PLEASE RUN AWAY.
TANAI

GA
(THUD)
OHH... WHAT HAVE WE HERE!
RARE, RIGHT?
LET'S TAKE HIM WITH US. HE'LL FETCH A GOOD PRICE.
THIS IS MORE THAN TWO PERSONS' WORTH!
CHEERS, GUV.
THERE'S THIS THING CALLED IDLE CURIOSITY, AND IT'S GOT DEEP POCKETS.
I SHALL BRAND YOU WITH THE MARK OF THE NOBLE BEAST.

AAAH!!
LET ME OUT. LET ME OUT. LET ME OUT OF HERE.
IT HURTS. IT'S ALL DIRTY. I WANT TO GO HOME.
SEE, YOU'VE GOTTEN SO MUCH LOVELIER NOW.

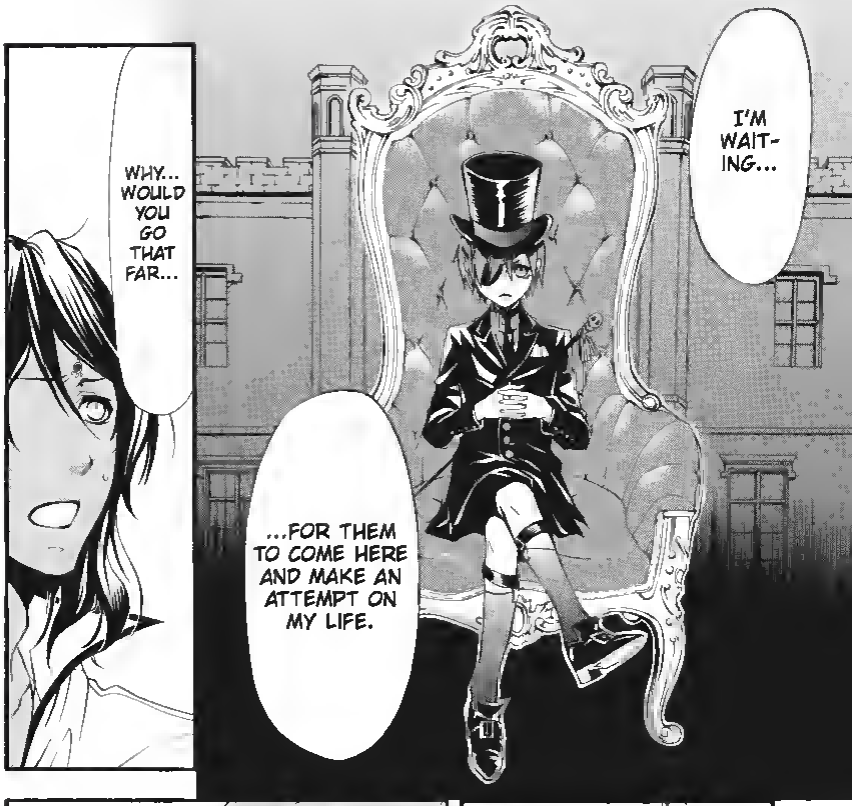
NOW LET US BEGIN THE NOBLE MASS ONCE MORE THIS EVENING
FATHER. MOTHER. GOD. PLEASE.
WHY?
WHY MUST WE BE —!

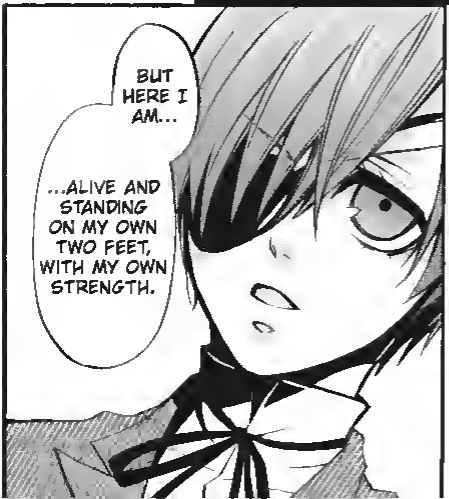
ILLKILLKILLKILLKILL


—OH?
V
WELL, WELL.
...AND THE SACRIFICE THAT HAS BEEN MADE WILL NEVER RETURN.
THAT FACT WILL NOT CHANGE FOR ALL ETERNITY...
YOU HAVE SUMMONED ME.
MAKE YOUR CHOICE.
NOW!

I COM-MAND YOU!!
KILL THEM ALL!
CHIRP (TWINGE)
—C...
CIEL...?

GYU (CLENCH)
I WAS A POWER-LESS...
...CHILD.
MY...
...FAMILY WAS MURDERED, MY HOME BURNED TO ASH...
...AND I MYSELF WAS SUBJECTED TO HUMILIA-TIONS UNFIT FOR EVEN A BEAST.
IF PHANTOMHIVE WAS AN OBSTACLE TO THOSE WHO DISPATCHED ITS PREVIOUS HEAD THREE YEARS AGO, THEY WILL EVENTUALLY TARGET ME AGAIN IF I STAY ON AS EARL.
THUS, I RETURNED TO PHANTOM-HIVE, SO THAT I MIGHT INFLICT THE SAME HUMILIATION UPON THOSE WHO MADE ME AND MINE SUFFER.


I'M WAIT-ING...
WHY... WOULD YOU GO THAT FAR...
...FOR THEM TO COME HERE AND MAKE AN ATTEMPT ON MY LIFE.


BUT HERE I AM...
...ALIVE AND STANDING ON MY OWN TWO FEET, WITH MY OWN STRENGTH.

DES-PAIRING, GRIEVING, STANDING STILL...
WHAT GOOD WILL THEY DO?
EVEN THE DEAD CAN STAND STILL.

I WON'T MAKE ANY LOFTY CLAIMS ABOUT TRYING TO AVENGE THE PREVIOUS HEAD.
I'M SIMPLY DOING THIS FOR MY OWN DIVERSION.
PARI CORUNCHO
IF I'M GOING TO DIE AT SOME POINT ANY-WAY, I'D RATHER DO SO WITHOUT REGRETS.
THIS IS ALL JUST A GAME TO SEE WHO WINS.
THEM OR ME, EARL PHANTOM-HIVE.
...I WON'T GIVE UP I'LL GRAB THE SPIDER'S THREAD IF IT'LL HELP ME CRAWL UP OUT OF THERE.
EVEN IF I'M MADE TO STAND ON THE EDGE OF DESPAIR IN A HELLISH PLACE...

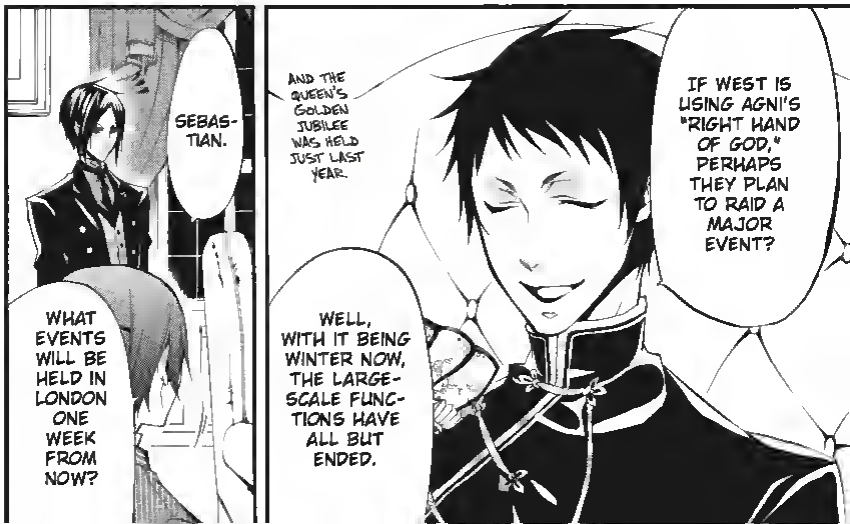
WE HUMANS POSSESS THAT KIND OF STRENGTH.
TO GRAB THAT THREAD OR NOT, HOWEVER ...IS YOUR OWN DECISION, AND YOURS ALONE.
ENOUGH OF THIS PRATTLE
SEBASTIAN, I WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT WEST.
COME
YES, SIR
TO GRAB THAT THREAD OR NOT, HOWEVER, IS YOUR OWN DECISION, AND YOURS ALONE—
CIEL ...!
I...! I AM ASHAMED OF MYSELF.

I'M SEVENTEEN, BUT I'M STILL AN UNSEASONED FOOL NEXT TO YOU.
I KNEW AGNI WAS TROUBLED, BUT I DIDN'T EVEN TRY TO TALK TO HIM ABOUT IT.
I WAS A SPOILED CHILD IN THE NEST THAT MY PARENTS GRANTED ME...
...AND NEVER EVEN ONCE TRIED TO UNDERSTAND OTHERS.
I WANT TO CONFRONT THEM AND ASK THEM WHY THEY LEFT MY SIDE.
BUT NOW I WANT TO KNOW.
SO PLEASE!
PLEASE LET ME JOIN YOU IN—

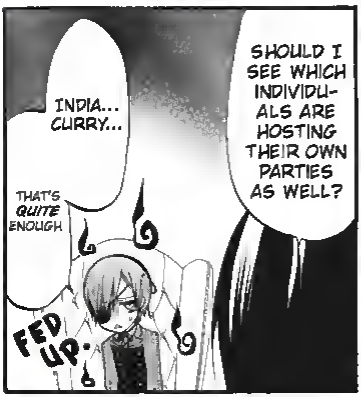
I DECLINE.
BASSARI (FLATLY)
...
THAT SAID ...
...MY PARLOUR DOOR HAS NEVER BEEN LOCKED.
I HAVE NO DESIRE TO BABYSIT A CHARGE AS NAIVE AS YOURSELF.
SEE YAAA
.....
GASA (GRAB)
CIEL!!
UWAH!!

AND...
CIEL, I APOLOGISE FOR BREAKING THE CUPS EARLIER WHEN I SNAPPED.
PLEASE FORGIVE ME.
I SHOULD'VE KEPT MY MOUTH SHUT
OH, YES.
SFX: SU (SCURRY) SU SU
...to you too...
I...I apologise...
NOT AT ALL...
HEH AMUSING
—NOW THEN.
LET US CONTINUE OUR LITTLE CHAT FROM BEFORE HIS HIGHNESS'S INTERRUPTION.

FIRST, WEST MUST HAVE PUT AGNI UP TO THE AFORE-MENTIONED INCIDENTS.
WITH HIS PHYSICAL ABILITIES, IT WOULD BE EASY FOR HIM TO DO EVERYTHING ALONE.
WEST MENTIONED...
...A "THREE-YEAR PLAN," THAT "THE SUCCESSFUL EXECUTION OF THAT PLAN WILL TAKE PLACE IN ONE WEEK," AND THAT "AGNI'S RIGHT HAND IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY."
THAT WAS ALL.
THE MOST IMPORTANT FACTOR HERE IS THE "ONE WEEK LATER" DEADLINE.

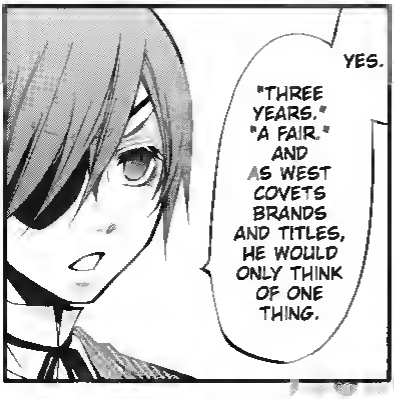

IF WEST IS USING AGNI'S "RIGHT HAND OF GOD," PERHAPS THEY PLAN TO RAID A MAJOR EVENT?
AND THE QUEEN'S GOLDEN JUBILEE WAS HELD JUST LAST YEAR.
WELL, WITH IT BEING WINTER NOW, THE LARGE-SCALE FUNCTIONS HAVE ALL BUT ENDED.
SEBASTIAN.
WHAT EVENTS WILL BE HELD IN LONDON ONE WEEK FROM NOW?

HM
ONE WEEK FROM NOW?
YOUNG MASTER HAS RECEIVED INVITATIONS TO...
...A CHOIR CONCERT SPONSORED BY SAINT SOPHIA ACADEMY AT WESTMINSTER ABBEY...
... WAGNER AT THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE IN COVENT GARDEN ...
...AN EXHIBITION OF INDIAN CULTURE AND ITS PROSPERITY WITHIN THE EMPIRE AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE...
...AN EXHIBITION OF WORLD CURRENCIES AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM...
... INDIA ?
YOUNG MASTER, A GENTLEMAN MUST READ ALL CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO HIM, NO MATTER WHAT THE CONTENTS.
SHUT UP AND JUST GIVE ME THE DETAILS.
"THE EXHIBITION OF INDIAN CULTURE AND ITS PROSPERITY IN THE BRITISH EMPIRE" WILL BE HELD AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE NEXT WEEK. THE MAIN EXHIBITS WILL FEATURE GREAT BRITAIN'S ACHIEVEMENTS AND INDUSTRY IN INDIA.
A CURRY FAIR WILL BE HELD AS PART OF THE PROGRAMME.
YOUNG MASTER HAD RECEIVED AN INVITATION TO BE A SPECIAL JUDGE AT THAT FAIR.



THE FAIR WILL HAVE SEVERAL COMPANIES COMPETING WITH THEIR CURRIES.
RUMOUR HAS IT THAT HER MAJESTY, WHO IS KNOWN FOR HER LOVE OF CURRY, WILL COME VISIT THE FAIR.

※ QUEEN VICTORIA EMPLOYED TWO INDIAN CHEFS TO COOK HER CURRY



?
?
AH-HA-HA! SO YOU WERE REALLY SENT ON A FOOL'S ERRAND.
I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW SILLY THIS CASE HAS TURNED OUT TO BE.
I'M SO UNNERVED, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY..
?

QUIET DOWN, YOUR HIGHNESS. YOU WILL RECEIVE YOUR EXPLANATION IN DUE TIME...
...FROM LORD EARL!
RIGHT?
EEK...
ONCE AGAIN, YOU WERE ONLY PRETENDING TO KNOW!
AHEM!
THE MAIN DISH SERVED AT WEST'S HINDUSTANI COFFEEHOUSE IS CURRY.

IN OTHER WORDS, WEST IS ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN A "ROYAL WARRANT" WITH HIS "CURRY."
AH, NOW I UNDERSTAND!

A ROW-Y'ALL WAR RENT?
WHAT IS THAT?
AH, RIGHT!
YOUR HIGHNESS WOULDN'T KNOW OF IT.

?
A ROYAL WARRANT IS EQUIVALENT TO QUALITY ASSURANCE.
ENGLAND HAS A CURIOUS SYSTEM. MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL FAMILY CAN GRANT A SEAL OF "APPROVAL" TO MERCHANTS AND ARTISANS OF WHOM THEY ARE FOND.
THAT SEAL IS KNOWN AS THE "ROYAL WARRANT."
...STORES THAT HOLD THE ROYAL WARRANT CAN DISPLAY THAT SEAL ON THEIR SIGNS.
SOME STORES HAVE TRIPLED THEIR SALES...
...AS QUEEN VICTORIA SETS THE TRENDS FOR EVERYTHING FROM FASHION TO FOOD.
WHEN A BRAND RECEIVES A WARRANT, ITS SALES ARE GUARANTEED TO INCREASE.
WE WERE CONSIDERING APPLYING FOR THE ROYAL WARRANT FOR OUR CONFECTIONERY AND TOY BRAND.
I UNDERSTAND THAT WEST WANTS THE SO-CALLED "ROYAL WARRANT."
BUT WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH THE HANGING INCIDENTS?
HAAH.
THE RAGE FOR CURRY HAS SLOWED DOWN, SO WEST MUST WANT THE TITLE, WHATEVER THE COST.

...“GRATUITOUS SERVICE TO THE ROYAL FAMILY FOR THREE YEARS.”
AND THE SECOND IS...
THE FIRST IS TO “HAVE THE PRODUCT’S QUALITY RECOGNISED AT A FAIR.”
THERE ARE TWO CONDITIONS FOR OBTAINING A ROYAL WARRANT.
FOR THREE YEARS, WEST HAS BEEN SERVICING THE ROYAL FAMILY WITH HIS IMPORTS FOR FREE.
HE THEN CAUSED THOSE INCIDENTS TO DESTROY HIS RIVALS WHO ARE PARTICIPATING IN THE FAIR NEXT WEEK.
MILITARY PERSONNEL WERE ATTACKED AS WELL, SO IT LOOKED AS IF THE CULPRITS WERE INDIANS WHO HELD A GRUDGE AGAINST ENGLAND.
WEST IS PROBABLY USING MINA TO FORCE AGNI TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS SILLY PLAN...
HUH (RAISE)
...AND AGNI IS DOING IT FOR THE SAKE OF HIS OWN GOD.
!!!
EH?
THE LETTERS LEFT BEHIND AT THE CRIME SCENES HELD ANOTHER IMPORTANT CLUE BESIDES CAMOUFLAGE.
SU (SWIPE)

worthless, rotten
culture on you tead.
To all the ind ru
Land, You are the
vengeance of !
Now, the Day
RIGHT HERE.
LORD RANDALL WAS RANTING THAT THE MARK WAS AN INSULT AGAINST ENGLAND, BUT ITS REAL MEANING IS SOMETHING ELSE ENTIRELY.
YOU PRAY TO THAT, NO?
AH...
AGNI DREW THIS. AND WHO IS AGNI'S "GOD"?
YOUR GOD...
...IS THE GODDESS KALI, WITH HER TONGUE LOLLING OUT.

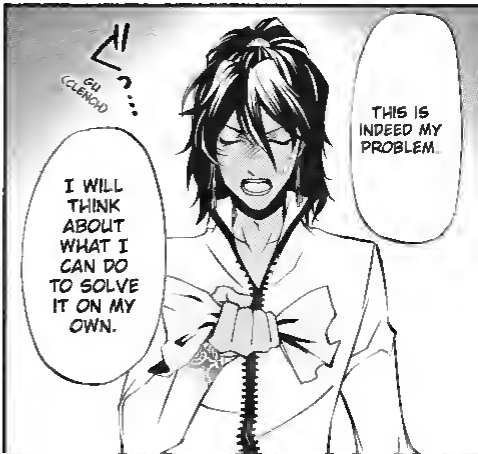
MISTER AGNI WORSHIPS YOU AND LIVES FOR YOU EVEN AFTER HE HAS LEFT YOUR SIDE.
HE DID IT ALL FOR YOU.
SO BOTH HIS PRAYERS AND HIS APOLOGY WERE DRAWN INTO THIS MARK.
You have been blessed with a wonderful butler.
HOW ABOUT WE HAVE THE YARD HANDLE THE REST?
WELL, LET'S WASH OUR HANDS OF THIS AFFAIR.
WHAT A HEARTWARMING STORY
THEN, ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL, EH?
PEGH
COUGH
AGNI...

WE NOW KNOW THAT THIS INCIDENT DOESN'T CONCERN OUR SIDE, THE UNDER-WORLD.
AND WE'RE NOT RUN-NING A CHARITY.
FUAAAH.

W—
WAIT!
THEN WHAT WILL BECOME OF AGNI... AND MINA !?
WHO KNOWS?

GOOD ATTITUDE.
THEN I'LL GET ON WITH MY WORK.

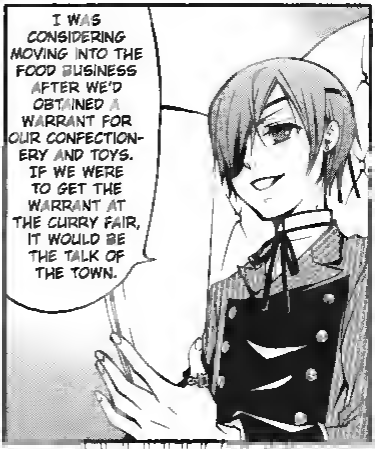
...!
I UNDER-STAND...


GU (GLEWOO)
THIS IS INDEED MY PROBLEM.
I WILL THINK ABOUT WHAT I CAN DO TO SOLVE IT ON MY OWN.

SFX: PACHI (CRACKLE) PACHI
A ROYAL WARRANT IS GRANTED AFTER THREE YEARS OF GRATUITOUS SERVICE* AND ONE'S SHOWING AT A FAIR.
THE FAIR WILL BE HELD IN ONE WEEK. AND FORTU-NATELY FOR US, THE TOP COMPETITION IS UNABLE TO PAR-TICIPATE.

*THIS REFERS TO ACTUALLY HAVING SUPPLIED A CONSID-ERABLE AMOUNT OF GOODS TO THE ROYAL FAMILY AS ONE COMPANY (STORE). IN THIS CASE, FUNTOM CORPORATION HAS SUPPLIED ENOUGH CONFECTIONERY AND TOYS TO THE ROYAL FAMILY

IN-DEED.
IT'LL BE QUITE THE TROPHY TO MARK THE LAUNCH OF FUNTOM'S CULINARY LINE.


I WAS CONSIDERING MOVING INTO THE FOOD BUSINESS AFTER WE'D OBTAINED A WARRANT FOR OUR CONFECTIONERY AND TOYS. IF WE WERE TO GET THE WARRANT AT THE CURRY FAIR, IT WOULD BE THE TALK OF THE TOWN.

WE WON'T BE NEEDING ANY OF THAT.

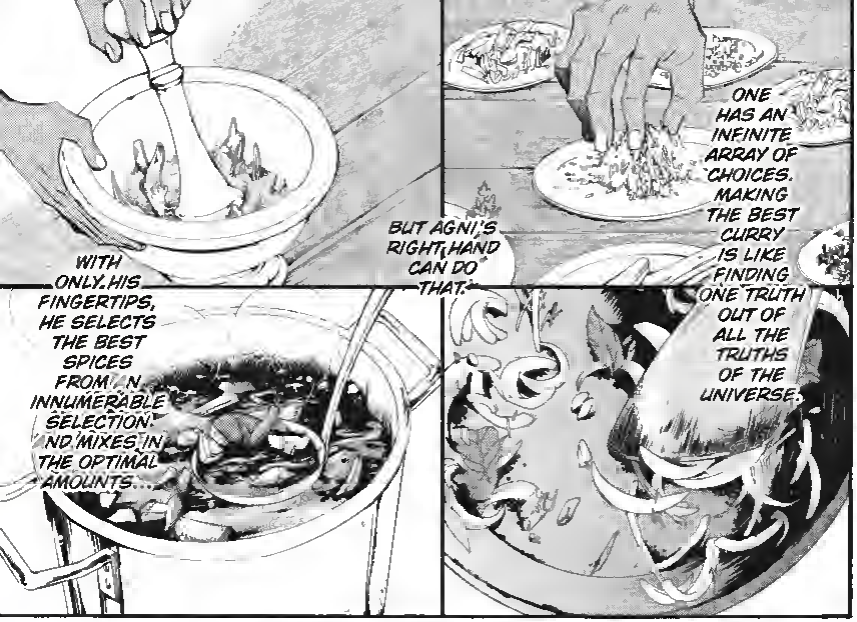
WILL YOU BE ABLE TO PREPARE SPECIALISTS IN CURRY, COOKING EQUIPMENT, STORES, AND SUCH IN TIME?
BUT YOU ONLY HAVE ONE WEEK TO SET UP A CULINARY DIVISION.

ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
SEBASTIAN?
AS BUTLER TO THE PHANTOM-HIVE FAMILY, IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT I CAN MANAGE SOMETHING LIKE THIS.
THE ROYAL WARRANT WILL B—
IMPOS-SIBLE!

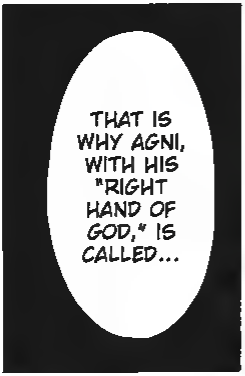
NN?
WHY NOT?
HE HAS AGNI...
THERE IS NO WAY YOU CAN WIN AGAINST WEST...
...WHO IN TURN HAS THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD.
...IN A CURRY MATCH!

THE DESTRUCTIVE POWER OF THE "RIGHT HAND OF GOD" IS INDEED EXTRAORDINARY, BUT WE'RE NOT COMPETING IN A COMBAT SPORT.
THIS IS A CURRY-COOKING COMPETITION.
THAT'S IT RIGHT THERE! IT ISN'T A COMBAT SPORT LIKE FENCING.
IT'S A CURRY MATCH!
PARDON ME.
I DO NOT QUITE FOLLOW ...
?
YOU DON'T KNOW AGNI'S TRUE POWER.
YOU DO NOT KNOW REAL CURRY.

THE QUALITY OF REAL CURRY IS DETERMINED BY THE SPICES IN IT.
ONE MUST CHOOSE FROM HUNDREDS OF SPICES. THE AMOUNT OF EACH SPICE ONE USES DETERMINES THE CURRY'S TASTE, HEAT, AND FRAGRANCE...THE SPICES AFFECT EVERYTHING.


WITH ONLY HIS FINGERTIPS, HE SELECTS THE BEST SPICES FROM AN INNUMERABLE SELECTION AND MIXES IN THE OPTIMAL AMOUNTS...
BUT AGNI'S RIGHT HAND CAN DO THAT.
ONE HAS AN INFINITE ARRAY OF CHOICES. MAKING THE BEST CURRY IS LIKE FINDING ONE TRUTH OUT OF ALL THE TRUTHS OF THE UNIVERSE.

...TO CREATE CURRY THAT IS NOTHING SHORT OF A MIRACLE.


THAT IS WHY AGNI, WITH HIS "RIGHT HAND OF GOD," IS CALLED...

HIS POWER TO IMAGINE AND CREATE A WORLD FROM NOTHING IS INDEED WITHIN THE REALM OF GODLINESS.

...
KALI'S RIGHT HAND!

I'VE NEVER HAD CURRY THAT WAS BETTER THAN AGNI'S.
THAT'S WHY I TOLD HIM TO OFFER ME HIS RIGHT HAND FOR-EVER.
SO THE "RIGHT HAND OF GOD" ...
...REFERS NOT TO GODLY "STRENGTH," BUT TO GODLY "CURRY-MAKING SKILLS"?
THERE YOU HAVE IT.
HEH
SEBAS-TIAN?
WELL, WELL...
...I SEEM TO HAVE FOUND MYSELF UP AGAINST A FORMIDABLE ADVERSARY.

To be continued in **Black Butler** 5

Black Butler
黒執事

Downstairs

Wakana Haduki
Akiyo Satorigi
SuKe
Bell
Yuri Kisaki
*
Takeshi Kuma
*
Yana Toboso

SpecialThanks

Yana's Mother
Mayu Miyamoto(Translation)
for You!

Translation Notes

Page 11 - **City Police**: "City Yard" in the original, this might be a contraction of Scotland Yard and the City of London police, whose territory is the mile-wide area at the heart of London. The East End, however, would fall roughly east of that.

Page 16 - **Oriental**. The definition of "the Orient" began to shift at the turn of the nineteenth century, with some beginning to use it to refer to East Asia, while many British in particular used it to refer to South Asia.

Page 17 - **Qing Bang**: "The Green Gang," an actual Chinese crime syndicate active in Shanghai in the early twentieth century.

Page 25 - **Agni**. A Hindu deity; the god of the sacrificial flame.

Page 25 - ***Khansama***. A Hindi word for a manservant who acts as both cook and butler or house steward.

Page 26 - ***Jo aagyaa***. "As you command" in Hindi, also *jo aggyā*, *jo āyṇā*. Agni speaks with a few phonetically spelled Hindi phrases in the original edition, which are preserved here.

Page 31 - ***Marma***. Pressure points on the human body that can be manipulated to cause intense pain. Several schools of Indian martial arts focus on this.

Page 39 - **Soma**. In Hinduism, a deified plant from which the nectar of the gods is produced. Soma is also closely linked to Agni.

Page 39 - **Bengal**. Also known as the Bengal Presidency, this was a region of British India that would have been governed by a British Governor-General, not a raja. The Bengal Soma later describes is closer to a "princely state," which would have had a native ruler.

Page 46 - ***Namaste ji***. A Hindi salutation. The *ji* is a respectful honorific for the addressee.

Page 49 - **Dirt under the nails**. There is a saying that goes, "Brew the dirt under his nails and drink it," which means, "Try to learn a little from that person."

Page 58 - **Musical instruments**. In this scene, Soma is playing a *sitar*, while Agni is playing the *tabla*, two popular Indian instruments.

Page 61 - **Ganesha**. One of the most popular deities of Hinduism, Ganesha is depicted as a man with the head of an elephant. He is thought to bring success and remove obstacles.

Page 65 - **Valid target area**. A fencing term indicating the places one can legally strike one's opponent. In foil fencing, this is limited to the front and back of the human torso.

Page 99 - ***Paagal***. Another phonetically-spelled Hindi word meaning "fool" or "crazy person."

Page 100 - **Arshad**. Agni's original given name means "pious" and "devout" in Sanskrit.

Page 103 - **Ramakrishna** (1836-1886). One of the most revered Indian sages and holy men from nineteenth century India, he was a devotee of the goddess Kali.

Page 103 - **The flag on the cottage pie**. At Japanese family restaurants, special lunches for children usually have a flag on the rice.

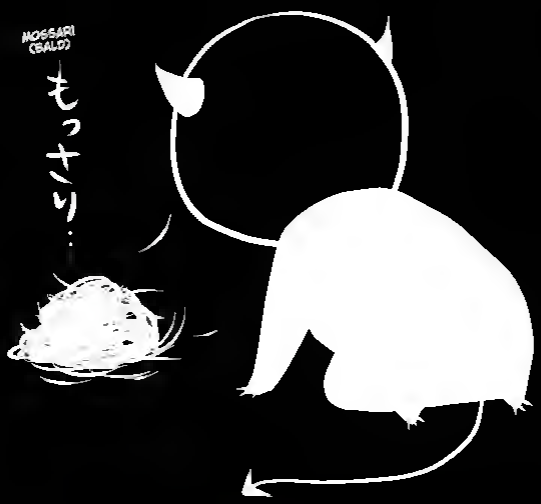
Page 135 - **Gieves & Hawkes**. One of the world's oldest gentlemen's custom tailors, founded in 1771.

Page 141 - **Thomas Goode, Royal Worcester, Lock & Co.** Examples of British Royal Warrant holders with long histories. The Gallé lamp is a reference to Émile Gallé, a famous French Art Nouveau artist active around this time.

Page 167 - **Spider's thread**. A possible reference to a short story by Ryunosuke Akutagawa, "*Kumo no Ito*" (lit. "Spider's Thread").

Page 172 - **Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee**. A celebration of her fiftieth year as queen, Victoria's Golden Jubilee was held in 1887.

Page 178 - **Kali's tongue**. It is a popular belief that, having stepped on her husband, Kali stuck her tongue out to express her shame. Perhaps Agni is doing the same by leaving the mark on his letters.



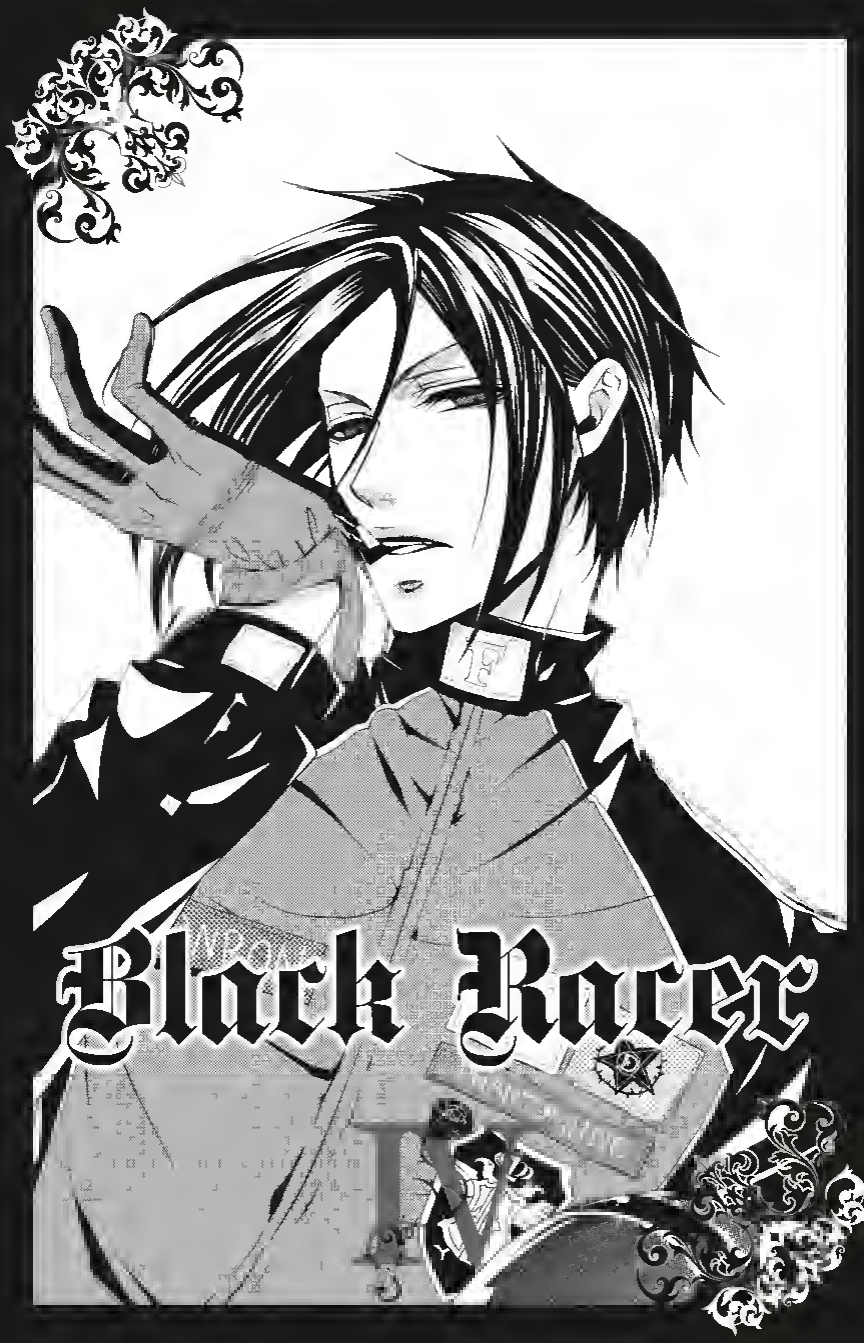
Yana Toboso

Author's note

Editor K kept telling me "Your self-portrait will look much better without any hair," so I gallantly removed all the hair from it. It was a good opportunity(?) because I actually have a bald spot the size of a ¥10 coin.

I wouldn't mind if my hairs thinned out evenly, but why did they boycott growing at just one place? I can't understand their logic.

That's what's on my mind as Volume 4 hits the shelves.


Black Racer

A grand, high-speed adventure in which the undefeated Sebastian, king of the Formula 1 racing world, whizzes through the concrete labyrinth known as the "race course," leaving a roaring exhaust note in his wake (or not)!

...or something.

BLACK BUTLER 4

Yana Toboso

Translation: Tomo Kimura • Lettering: Tania Biswas

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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